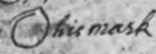
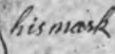



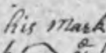

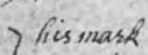

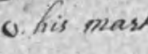

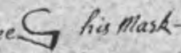

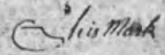

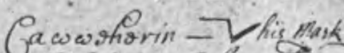





P11-128

With the Appurtenances Free & Clear And freely
and clearly Acquitted Exonerated & Discharged of, from
all and all Manner of former and other gifts, grants barg-
ains, Sales Leases Mortgages, Wills Jointures Devi-
ries, Judgments, Executions, Incumbrances & Extents,
And the more the said Catoonah and Associates for
our selves our heirs Executors Administrators De-
vant and Assigns if Above Demitted promise to
them the said John Bodon, say Rest Above said their
Associates heirs and Assigns Against the Law full Claims
or Demands of any person or persons whatsoever forever
Hereafter to Warrant Secure and Defend. In Witness
Whereof we have here unto set our hands & Seals this
Thirtieth Day of September in the Seventh Year of the
Reign of our Sovereign Lady Ann Queen of England &
third Year of our Lord God 1708.

Signes Sealed & Delivered
in the presence of
John Holmes Junr
Joseph Copley
John Copley
Gootwas 
Mahke 
Incorporick 

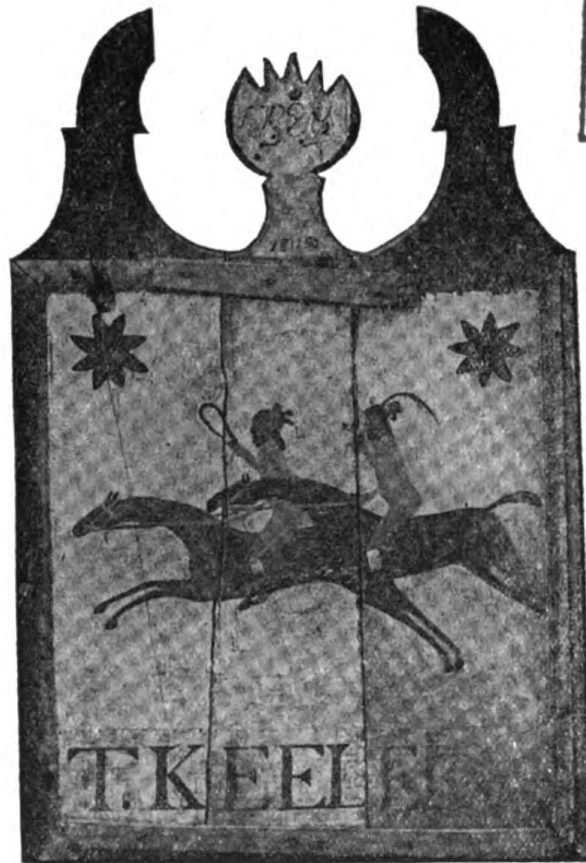
Catoonah  his mark 
Waquacomick  his mark 
Waspakechain  his mark 
Wawkamawee  his mark 
Naranoka  his mark 
Cawashorin  his mark 

This Above Written Bill of Sale is Acknowledged
by of Grantors this 30th Day of September 1708
Before me Samuel Huit Justice of peace
Recorded February, 3: 1709/10
At John Copley Recorder

PORTION OF THE DEED GIVEN BY THE INDIANS TO THE PROPRIETORS
OF RIDGEFIELD IN 1708

THE HISTORY OF RIDGEFIELD CONNECTICUT

BY
L. Rockwell
GEORGE L. ROCKWELL



OLD SIGN AT KEELER'S TAVERN

Privately printed by the author
RIDGEFIELD, CONNECTICUT
1927



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1927

TO
MY WIFE AND CHILDREN
THIS BOOK WHICH THEY INSPIRED
IS AFFECTIONATELY DEDICATED

COPYRIGHT
1927
GEORGE L. ROCKWELL
RIDGEFIELD, CONN.

PREFACE

The importance of the history of the United States and its several states and the importance of the history of the State of Connecticut and its several towns does not depend merely upon the fact that they have existed for a specified term of years or that they have occupied a certain position upon the face of our earth; but rather such importance depends upon what the inhabitants of a region have accomplished in developing the resources, the opportunities, and the responsibilities of the section in which they live.

Believing that the inhabitants of that section of our state and nation which has been officially known as Ridgefield, Connecticut, since 1708, have by such development and accompanying activities made a record worthy of recording, I have undertaken to write a brief history of the Town of Ridgefield, Connecticut, which my ancestor, Jonathan Rockwell, assisted in founding.

Although of necessity much of detail has been included in this history, so of necessity a still greater amount of detail has been omitted. Had it not been for the encouragement and timely assistance of family and friends, for the commendably complete records maintained and protected by our several town and other officials, for the family traditions carefully nurtured, and for the long, patient and scholarly work of the authors and compilers of the many books consulted—to which the writer is indebted for a large amount of historical data—it would have been impossible for him to have undertaken the writing and publication of this story of Ridgefield, Connecticut, which the author hopes may prove an incentive to the youth of today and to the youth of tomorrow and their friends, to learn more concerning the history and responsibilities of the past and their responsibilities to assist in maintaining the integrity and high position of their town, their state, and their nation in the future.

While the author is unable here to express his appreciation to all of those who have assisted him in compiling this history of Ridgefield, he takes this opportunity to express his indebtedness for services rendered and assistance given by the following: Colonel Hiram K. Scott, for many years Town Clerk of Ridgefield; Honorable John Brophy; Jacob Legrand Dauchy, Esq.; Benjamin K. Northrop, Esq.; and Honorable William O. Seymour, all of Ridgefield and now deceased. Also the author expresses his thanks and appreciation to Samuel A. Coe, Esq.; and Miss Mary Olcott of Ridgefield; also to Honorable George S. Godard of Hartford, State Librarian of Connecticut; Honorable Allan Forbes of Boston; Mrs. Mary Everest Rockwell of Meriden and Mr. Charles R. Hale of Hartford.

GEORGE LOUNSBURY ROCKWELL.

Ridgefield, Connecticut.
June 20, 1927.

CHAPTER I

PURCHASE OF THE TOWNSHIP

The Township of Ridgefield lies in the west central part of Fairfield County. Bordering on New York State, it is situated on that portion of the line where the first angle is formed south of the Massachusetts corner. Because of this angle, with the bulging boundary on the east, and both boundaries tapering somewhat to the north and south, the town in shape resembles a coffin.* Ridgefield is approximately nine and three-fifths miles long and five miles in breadth at the widest point. It contains twenty-two thousand three hundred and ninety-nine acres. It is the fifty-fourth town in size in Connecticut and was the forty-third town settled. At the time of its settlement there were only four counties in the state: Hartford, New Haven, New London and Fairfield†. Three other towns in the United States bear the same name: Ridgefield, McHenry County, Illinois; Ridgefield, Bergen County, New Jersey, and Ridgefield, Clarke County, Washington.

Ridgefield was the seventh town settled in Fairfield County, the towns previously settled being Stratford, Greenwich, Stamford, Fairfield, Norwalk and Danbury; named in the order of their organization.

This section of territory was called by the Indians Caudatowa, meaning "high land." From the several ridges running northerly and southerly throughout the township our forefathers very appropriately named the town Ridgefield. In the first and subsequent grants following the settlement, the town was spelled *Ridgfield*,

* Reverend Samuel Goodrich, in a manuscript prepared by him in 1800, alludes to the shape of this town "as nearly the common figure of a coffin."

† Windham County was incorporated in 1726, Litchfield County in 1751 and Middlesex and Tolland Counties in 1785.



MAP OF RIDGEFIELD

and is thus written upon the early records. In its primeval state, with forests filled with game, and streams and lakes teeming with fish, with wooded hillsides and sheltered valleys, Ridgefield was a favorite abode of the Indians. One can easily imagine the wonderful natural beauty of the township before its forests yielded to the axe of the early settlers. It was inhabited by the Ramapo Indians of whom Catoonah was the chief.

The first intimation of the contemplated settlement of Ridgefield is found in the public records of the Colony of Connecticut, when in 1697 the following motion was granted: "Upon motion of Samuel Haise, Sr., John Belden, John Whitne, Ralph Keeler, Jachin Gregorie, John Nash, Samuel Keeler, William Lees, Zerubbabel Hoyt, Will Hains, to purchase of the Indians a certain tract of land lying about fourteen miles Northward of the town of Norwalk to settle a plantation there, this court made choice of Matthew Marvin, Mr. John Wakeman and David Waterbury to be a committee to view the said land and to inform them whether there be accommodation sufficient for a body of people to settle in a plantation way." In May, 1706, the General Assembly held in Hartford passed an act appointing Captain Jonathan Sellick, Lieutenant David Waterbury, Mr. John Copp of Norwalk to view the tract of land now Ridgefield. That the report of this committee was satisfactory is evident, for in May, 1708, several of the inhabitants of Norwalk petitioned the General Assembly which was then in session in Hartford, to grant them "libertie to purchase of the Indians a certain tract of land, bounded south on Norwalk bounds, northeast on Danbury, and west on York line." This petition was granted "provided it doth not prejudice any former grant; this Assembly reserving to themselves a power for settlement and allotment of the land so to be purchased among the petitioners, and such others as the said General Assembly shall judge meet." On the thirtieth of Sep-

tember, 1708, this purchase was made, the deed being as follows:

"To all people to whom these presents shall Come Greeting &c.

Know ye that I Catoonah Sachem of Ramapoo Indians and Associates within her Majesties province of New York in America. For & in consideration of y^e sum of One Hundred Pounds as current money of said province. To us in hand before the ensealing hereof well and Truly Paid by John Belden, Samuell Keeler Sen^r, Matthew Seamor, James Brown, Benjamin Wilson, Joseph Birchard, John Whitne Sen^r, Matthias Saint John Benjamin Hickcock, John Beebe Samuel Saint John, John Bouton Joseph Keeler, Samuel Smith Junior, Jonathan Stevens, Daniell Olmsted, Richard Olmsted, John Stirdevant, Samuel Keeler Jun^r, Joseph Bouton, Jonathan Rockwell, Edmond Wareing, Joseph Whitne, Daniel Hait, Thomas Hyott, James Benedick, Joseph Crampton, Ebenezer Sension, Matthew Saint John, all of the Town of Norwalk in y^e County of Fairfield, within her Majesties Colony of Connecticut in New England, and Thomas Smith, Thomas Canfield, & Samuell Smith of the Town of Milford in y^e County of Newhaven & Colonie aforesaid. The Receipt whereof we do hereby acknowledg, and ourselves therewith fully Satisfied, and Contented, and thereof and of every part of percell thereof Do Exonerate Acquitt & discharge the said John Belden, Samuel Keeler Sen^r Matthew Seamor, James Brown, Benjamin Wilson Joseph Birchard, John Whitne Sen^r, Matthias Saint John, Benjamin Hickcock, John Beebe Samuell Saint John, John Bouton, Joseph Keeler, Samuell Smith, Jonathan Stevens, Daniell Olmsted, Richard Olmsted, John Stirdevant, Samuell Keeler Jun^r, Joseph Bouton, Jonathan Rockwell, Edmond Wareing, Joseph Whitne, Daniell Hait, Thomas Hyott, James Bennedick, Joseph Crampton, Ebenezer Sension, Matthew Saint John, Thomas Smith, Thomas Canfield, and Samuel Smith, their heirs, executors and administrators forever by these presents. Have given, granted bargained, sold Allowed Conveyed and Confirmed, and by these presents Do freely fully and absolutely give grant bargain sell, Aliene Convey and Confirm unto them the said John Belden, Samuel Keeler Jun^r, Matthew Seamor, James Brown, Benjamin Wilson, Joseph Birchard, John

Whitne Sen^r, Matthias Saint John, Benjamin Hickcock, John Beebe, Samuell Saint John, John Bouton, Joseph Keeler Samuell Smith, Jonathan Stevens, Daniell Olmsted, Richard Olmsted, John Stirdevant, Samuell Keeler, Joseph Bouton, Jonathan Rockwell, Edmond Wareing, Joseph Whitne, Daniel Hait, Thomas Hyott, James Bennedick, Joseph Crampton, Ebenezer Sension, Matthew Saint John, Thomas Smith, Thomas Canfield, and Samuell Smith, their Associates heirs and assigns forever. A certain Tract of Land Scituat Lying and being so esteemed within her Majesties Colony of Connecticut aforesaid Butted and Bounded as followeth, at a Rock with stones Lay'd thereon that lyeth upon y^e west side of Norwalk River about twenty rod northward of the Crossing or where Danbury old Cart path Crosseth the River which said Rock is the South East Corner and from said Corner a line Runneth upwardes unto Umpewauge pond to a White Oak Tree, Standing by the Northwest Corner of said Pond, the said tree being marked and Stones Lay'd about it and is the North East Corner, and from the said Corner Tree, another line Running near Two points to the North of West into a pond Called Nesopack and Continues y^e Same Coarse untill it meets with a second pond Called Aokkeels*, Crossing by y^e south End of both ponds, and from thence Running Near West untill it Extends to a place Called Mamanasquag, where is a Oak Tree Marked on y^e North Side of the outlet of water that Comes out from a sort of grassy pond, which is known and Called by Said Name, which tree is the North West Corner, and from said Tree another line Running South bearing to y^e East About one mile and half. Running by y^e East side of another Mountain Called Asoquatah untill it meets Stanford Bound line, about a quarter of a mile to y^e Eastward of Cross River pond, where stands a Marked White Oak tree with Stones about it, and is y^e South West Corner, and from Said Marked tree a long by Stanford line untill it Comes to Norwalk purchase and so by Said Purchase Bounds to the Said Rock at the South East Corner. Containing by Estimation Twenty Thousand Acres, be it more or less, The Four Corners of Said Tract of Land being Called by the follow-

* Nesopack was the present Great Pond, and Aokkeels the present Little Pond.

ing Indian Names South East Corner 'Wheer Cock' North East Corner 'Wononkpakoonk' North West Corner 'Mamanasquag' South West Corner 'Narahawmis'.

"To Have and to Hold, the Said granted and bargained premises with all the appurtenances priviledges, and Comodities to the same, belonging or in anywise Appertaining to them y^e Above Named persons their Associates heirs and assigns forever, to them and their sons their Associates heirs and assigns forever, to them and their only proper Use bennefitt and behoof forever. And I the Said Catoonah and Associates for ourselves our heirs Executors, administrators, Do Covenant promise and grant to and with the above said persons their associates heirs and assigns, that before the ensealing hereof. "We are the true and Lawfull Owners of y^e above bargained premises and by Native Right Seized and possessed of the Same in our own proper Right as a Good perfect and Absolute Estate of Inheritance in fee Simple and have in Ourselves good Right full power and Sufficient Authority to grant bargain Sell Convey and Confirm said bargained premises in manner as above said, and that the said John Belden, and the rest above said their Associates heirs and assigns Shall and may from time to time, and at all times forever hereafter, by force and virtue of these presents Lawfully and peaceably and quietly Have, Hold, Use, Occupie, possess and injoy the said Demissed and bargained premises. With the appurtenances free and Clear, and freely and Clearly Acquitted Exonerated & Discharged of from and all Mannor of former and other gifts grants bargains, Sales Leasses Mortgages, Wills, Intails Joynters Dowries Judgments Executions Incumbrances & Extents.

"Furthermore I the said Catoonah and Associates for ourselves our heirs Executors administrators Do Covenant and Ingage y^e above Demissed premises to them the said John Belden, and the rest above said, their Associates, heirs and assigns, against the Lawfull Claims, or Demands of any person or persons whatsoever, forever hereafter to Warrant secure and Defend.

In Witness whereof we have hereunto Sett our hands and Seals this Thirtieth Day of September in the Seventh year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lady Ann, Queen of England, &c. and in y^e year of our Lord God, 1708.

Signed Sealed and Delivered in presence of

John Holmes Jr.,

Joseph Seely

John Copp,

Catoonah, Gootquas, Wawkamawwee

Woquacomick, Mahke, Naraneka

Waspahchain, Tawpornick, Cawwehorin

"This above Written Bill of Sale is Acknowledged by y^e
Grantors this 30th Day of September 1708.

"Before me, SAMUEL HAIT,

"Justice of Peace."

The General Assembly which met in Hartford in May, 1709, recognized the purchase of Ridgefield by appointing Major Peter Burr of Fairfield, John Copp of Norwalk, and Josiah Starr of Danbury a committee to make a survey of this purchase, and to lay it out for a town, and to make a return of their doings to the General Assembly at New Haven in the following October. They were to report "of their doings therein, and of their opinion how many inhabitants the said tract of land may admit and contain."

This was done, and the following grant was made by the General Assembly in the session at New Haven, October 13th, 1709:

"WHEREAS, the Generall Assembly of this Colony Holden at Hartford May 13th, 1708 — Upon the petition of Sundry of the Inhabitants of the town of Norwalk praying for liberty to purchase of the Indians a certain Tract of Land lying within this Colony bounded Northerly and Northeasterly with the Town of Danbury, Southerly with the said Town of Norwalk and West or Westerly with y^e line or boundary between this Colony & y^e province of New York, to the end they might make a Plantation there, and settle upon the Same — Did Grant to the said Petitioners a liberty to purchase the same Tract of Land.

And pursuant thereto y^e said Petitioners did buy and purchase of Catoonah a Sachem — and other Indians the aforesaid tract of Land as by their Deed of Conveyance

thereof under their hands and Seals bearing Date September 30, 1708 now laid before this Assembly had been made appear. And whereas the General Assembly of this Colony Holden at Hartford, May y^e 12th, 1709. Did desire and Impower Major Peter Burr Mr. John Copp and M^r Josiah Starr to make a survey of the said tract of Land and to lay out a Town Platt there and to Make Return of their doings there in to this Assembly at this time, and the said Peter Burr and John Copp in pursuance thereof, haveing taken a view of the said Tract of Land, & have thereupon made a Return or Report thereof to this Assembly which hath been read and Considered.

This Assembly Do now give and Grant to the said petitioners, that is to say to the Persons hereafter named viz John Belden Samuel Keeler Sen^r, Matthew Seamor Matthias St John, Benjamin Wilson Samuel Keeler Jr, Samuel Smith Matthew St John Jonathan Stevens Daniel Olmstead John Sturdevant Jonathan Rockwell Joseph Whitney Thomas Hyatt James Benedict Joseph Crampton & Richard Olmstead of the said Town of Norwalk and Thomas Smith Thomas Canfield Samuel Smith & Ebenezer Smith of y^e Town of Milford and to their heirs and assigns forever, All the afore Mentioned Tract or Parcel of Land Butted and Bounded as followeth, that is to say, on the South or Southerly with the said Town of Norwalk, On the West or Westerly with the line or boundary between this Colony and the Province of New York, On the East or Easterly partly with the line to be continued and Run like unto the line between y^e said Town of Norwalk and the Town of Fairfield from the North End thereof unto a certain black Oak tree marked with Letters and haveing Stones layed about the Same standing upon the Mountain, commonly called West Cedar Mountain, and partly with a direct and Strait line to be run from said Black Oak Tree to a certain Large White Oak Tree marked and having Stones layed about it Standing at or near the North West Corner of Umpewauge pond. And on the North or Northerly with a direct Straight Line to be run from the said White Oake Tree to the South Westerly Corner of the Town of Danbury and continued unto the Said Line or Boundary between this Colony and the Province of New York to be the said Tract of Land more or less, With all and Singular the rights Members and appurte-

nances thereof and this Assembly do hereby Enact & Grant That the said Tract of Land shall be an Intire Township of itself, and shall be Called and Known by the name of Ridgfield, and shall be held and enjoyed by the said John Belden Samuel Keeler Sen^r Matthew Seamor Matthias St John Benjamin Wilson Samuel St John James Brown Benjamin Hickcock Joseph Keeler Samuel Keeler J^r Samuel Smith Matthew St John Jonathan Stevens Daniel Olmsted John Sturdevant Jonathan Rockwell Joseph Whitney Thomas Hyatt James Benedict Joseph Crampton and Richard Olmsted of Norwalk and Thomas Smith Thomas Canfield Samuel Smith and Ebenezer Smith of the Town of Milford and their heirs and Assigns in Equal and Even Shares, & be divided accordingly into lotts and parcells from time to time by Order of the Major Vote of them, to be accounted by the Major part of interests therein. Provided this act shall not be construed to the prejudice of any former Grant of this Court and provided always — Nevertheless that if the said John Belden Samuel Keeler Sen^r Matthew Seamor Matthew St John Benjamin Wilson Samuel St John James Brown Benjamin Hickcock ✓ Joseph Keeler Samuel Keeler J^r Samuel Smith Matthew St John Jonathan Stevens Daniel Olmsted John Sturdevant Jonathan Rockwell Joseph Whitney Thomas Hyatt James Bennedick Joseph Crampton and Richard Olmsted Thomas Smith Thomas Canfield Samuel Smith and Ebenezer Smith their heirs assigns or associates. Do not or shall not within four years next after the date of this act or Grant, Settle or Dwell upon the said tract of Land to y^e number of twenty Eight families, and after continue and Dwell for the Space of four Years next following, that then it shall be in the Liberty and power of this Assembly to grant of the said Tract of Land Settlement to any other persons as they shall se cause.

“ Test

Caleb Stanly, Secretary.”

The patent was not issued until five years later in the year 1714, and is as follows:

“ WHEREAS the Governor, Councill and Representatives of Her Majesties Colony of Connecticut in New England in General Court assembled, did by an Act bearing Date Octob^r 15th Anno Domini 1709, Grant unto John

Belden, Samuel Keeler Sr, Matthew Seamore, Matthias St John Benjamin Wilson Samuel St John James Brown
 ✓ Benjamin Hickock Joseph Keeler Samuel Keeler Jr Samuel Smith Matthew St John Jonathan Stevens Daniel Olmsted John Sturdevant Jonathan Rockwell Joseph Whitney Thomas Hyatt James Bennedick Joseph Crampton and Richard Olmsted all of ye Town of Norwalk in ye County of Fairfield in y^e Colony aforesaid, and Thomas Smith, Thomas Canfield, Samuel Smith, and Ebenezer Smith of the Town of Milford in y^e County of New Haven, in y^e Colony aforesaid, One Certain Tract of land, as by the said act doth full appear, the same tract of land, being situate, butted and bounded as in the said act and Grant is expressed, Viz, On y^e South or Southerly with y^e said Town of Norwalk, On the West, or Westerly with the line or boundary between this Colony and the Province of New York, On the East or Easterly partly with a line to be Continued and run like unto the line between the said Town of Norwalk and the Town of Fairfield, from the North and thereof unto a black Oak tree mark't with letters & having stones laid about the same, Standing upon the mountain Commonly Called y^e west Cedar mountain, and partly with a direct and streight line to be run from the said black Oak tree to a Certain large white Oak tree mark't, and having stones laid about it. Standing at or Near the Norwest Corner of Umpawaug Pond, and on the North or Northely with a direct Strait line to be run from y^e said white Oake Tree to the Southwest Corner of the Town of Danbury and Continued unto the said line or boundary between this Colony and the Province of New York, be the same Tract of land more or less, all of which appears by the aforesaid Act, and Whereas John Belden, Samuel Keeler Sen^r, Matthew Seamore, Matthias St John, Benjamin Willson, Saml St John, James Brown, Benjamin Hickock, Joseph Keeler, Sam^l Keeler Jun^r, Samuel Smith, Matthew St. John, Jonathan Stevens, Daniel Olmsted, John Sturdevant, Jonathan Rockwell, Joseph Whitne, Thomas Hyatt, James Benedict, Joseph Crampton, and Richard Olmstedd, Thomas Smith, Thomas Canfield, Samuel Smith and Ebenezer Smith pursuant to the law Title, the Tenure of Our lands, have made application for a Pattent, for the Confirmation of the said Tract of land to them, their heirs and assigns. Know all men There-



PATENT OF THE TOWN OF RIDGEFIELD
granted by Queen Anne of England in 1714.

fore by these presents, that the Governour and Company of Her Majestie To Colony of Connecticutt by Virtue of the Power Granted to them, by our Late Sovereign Lord King Charles the Second, of blessed memory in an by his said Majesties Lett^{rs} Pattents under the Great Seal of England bearing date the Twenty third day of Aprill in the fourteenth year of his Reign; Have Given, Granted Ratified and Confirmed, and by these presents, Do Give, Grant, Ratifie and Confirm both for themselves, their heirs and Successors, unto the said John Belden, Samuel Keeler Sen^r, Matthew Seamore, Matthias St John, Benjamin Willson, Sam^l St John, James Brown, Benjamin Hickock, Joseph Keeler, Sam^l Keeler J^r, Sam^l Smith Matthew St John, Jonathan Stevens, Daniel Olmstedd, John Sturdevant, Jonathan Rockwell, Joseph Whitne, Thomas Hyatt, James Benedict, Joseph Crampton, and Richard Olmsted, Thomas Smith, Thomas Canfield, Sam^l Smith and Ebenezer Smith, and to their heirs and Assigns for ever all, and singular the above mentioned Tract of Land, and Every part thereof, with all and singular rights profitts, priviledges Commodities, Emoluments and appurtenances what forever To the said Tract of land belonging or in any wise appertaining, To Have and To Hold the said Tract of land and every part thereof unto them the said John Belden, Samuel Keeler Sen^r, Matthew Seamore, Matthias St John, Benjamin Wilson, Sam^l St John, James Brown, Benjamin Hickock, Joseph Keeler, Samuel Keeler Jun^r, Sam^l Smith, Matthew St John, Jonathan Stevens, Daniel Olmsted, John Sturdevant, Jonathan Rockwell, Joseph Whitne, Thomas Hyatt, James Benedict, Joseph Crampton and Richard Olmstedd, Thomas Smith, Thomas Canfield, Samuel Smith and Ebenezer Smith and To their heirs and assigns forever and to their Only proper benefitt and behoof, from the day of the date hereof, and from time to time and att all times forever hereafter as a good, sure, lawful, absolute, and Indefeasible Estate of the inheritance in Fee Simple, without any Condition Limitation use of other thing to alter, or make void the same. And in such Shares and in such proportions, as they either already have or hereafter agree for y^e Division and partition of the same, To Hold of Her Majestie, Her Heirs and Successors, as of her Majesties Mannor of East Greenwich in the County of Kent, in the Kingdom of England in free and common

socage and not in Capitee, Nor by Knights service Yielding and paying therefor to Our Sovereign Lady the Queen her heirs and Successors forever, Only y^e fifth part of all the Oar of Gold and Silver which from Time to Time and att all times forever hereafter Shall be there Gotten had or obtained, in Lieu of all Services, Duties and demands what forever according to Charter. In Witness whereof we have caused the Seal of the Colony to be hereunto affixed in Hartford y^e Twenty second day of May in the Thirteenth year of the reign of Our Sovereign Lady Anne, by the Grace of God, Queen of Great Britain France and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, &c Anno Domini 1714."

" G. Saltonstall Governor

" By His Hon^d Command

Hez: Wyllys Secry.

Recorded in y^e Publick records of y^e Colony of Connecticutt
Second book of entries of Pattents and Surveys of lands
Folio 52,53,54.

" p^r Hez: Wyllys Secrett."

CHAPTER II

SETTLEMENT OF THE TOWN

As seen in the preceding chapter, the deed of the town of Ridgefield was given on September 30th, 1708. It must not be supposed that the proprietors immediately started for the lands newly acquired. They evidently set about the establishment of a town in a deliberate and orderly manner. At this early date in the history of our country, only a small portion of its great domain was settled. Along the Atlantic Coast there were settlements; but that portion of the country near Ridgefield was still a part of that vast unbroken virgin forest which stretched from the seaboard to the great prairies of the West. The settlements along the shore and inland, bordering upon the Hudson and Connecticut Rivers, were even then small and scattered.

In the woods of our present township, the land was generally covered with rocks, evidences of which may be clearly seen today by a trip into our forest-clad hillsides and valleys. The early settlers chose very wisely the ridge of land which is now our main street as the place for their new homes in the wilderness. A survey of the town today discloses the fact that with our present complete knowledge of the confines of Ridgefield, no more desirable place could have been selected for the first settlement.

A street eight rods wide was laid out, and its bounds were definitely established at a Town Meeting on December 26, 1721, when various roads in the town were laid out and accepted. An account of these in part will follow. By a perusal of the "Acts Relating to y^e Home Lotts," it will be seen that the home lots were laid out in two and a half acre plots, and in addition five acres were laid out in the rear of each, making seven and a half

acres allotted to each on the village street. The early records show that meadow land in various sections of the town was apportioned among the proprietors.

The first town meetings were held in Norwalk. The lots were numbered, and in order that all might have an equal chance, each drew a number and the lot corresponding to the number drawn was given him. Following are the minutes of the first three town meetings:

"The several Acts Relating to y^e Home Lotts & the addition made to the Same is as followeth

Nov. 1st, 1708 Voted by said proprietors that a committee shall be chosen to lay out the Town Plott. At the Said Meeting the said proprietors by a Major Vote appointed and made Choise of Mr. Samuel Keeler Sen^r Matthew Seamer, Joseph Bouton with John Copp to Lay out the Town Plott. At the said Meeting Voted by said proprietors that the Home Lotts now to be Lay'd out by said Committee shall be Two and one half acres. At the said Meeting y^e said Proprietors by a Major Vote Resolves and agrees that there shall be a Division of Land added to the Rear of the Home Lotts to the Number of five acres to Each Division. And the said Committee is Impowered to act their best Skill and Judgement to Equalize the Want of quality by adding or allowing quantity to such Home Lotts & Division of Addition as they in judgement may find wanting."

Another meeting was held in Norwalk seven days later, the minutes of which are as follows:

"At a Meeting of the said Proprietors Convened in Norwalk Nov y^e 8th 1708. The above said Committee makes a Return of their doings in and about the Home Lotts & y^e addition made to y^e Rear of y^e same. With an account of such Disproportion of their quality, that by all that they had done in y^e matter of equalizing them there still needed a further Allowance to some Lotts as they were by them Layd out with the Division added to y^e Rear of them. Upon which Return made by said Committee The said proprietors at y^e said meeting by a Major Vote Impower said Committee to Regulate that matter

according to y^e best of their judgements to add to such Home Lotts & Divisions annexed. Or to any other Division of Lands to be Lay'd out to any such proprietor to whom such Home Lott with ye anex^t Division shall fall to when Drawn that by said Committee shall be Judged Wanting in quality with the Generality of y^e best of the Home Lotts and annex^t Divisions."

Seventeen days later another meeting was held at which the distribution of the home lots occurred. The minutes are as follows:

"At a meeting of y^e said Proprietors Convened in Norwalk November y^e 25, 1708, Voted by Said proprietors that the Lotterie prepared for y^e Distribution of the Home Lotts with y^e anex^t Division, unto the said proprietors Shall at this time be Drawn, Which Lottery is methodized as followeth: Beginning on the east Tear of Lotts, y^e southermost Lott joining to the Land Lay'd out for a burying Yard — Calling that Lott the first in number, and sucessively Northward to the 12th Lott and then beginning at y^e Northermost Lott on the West tear numbering said Lott y^e thirteenth Lott and so sucessively Southward to the Twenty fifth Lott. The Draught of which Lottery was as followeth:

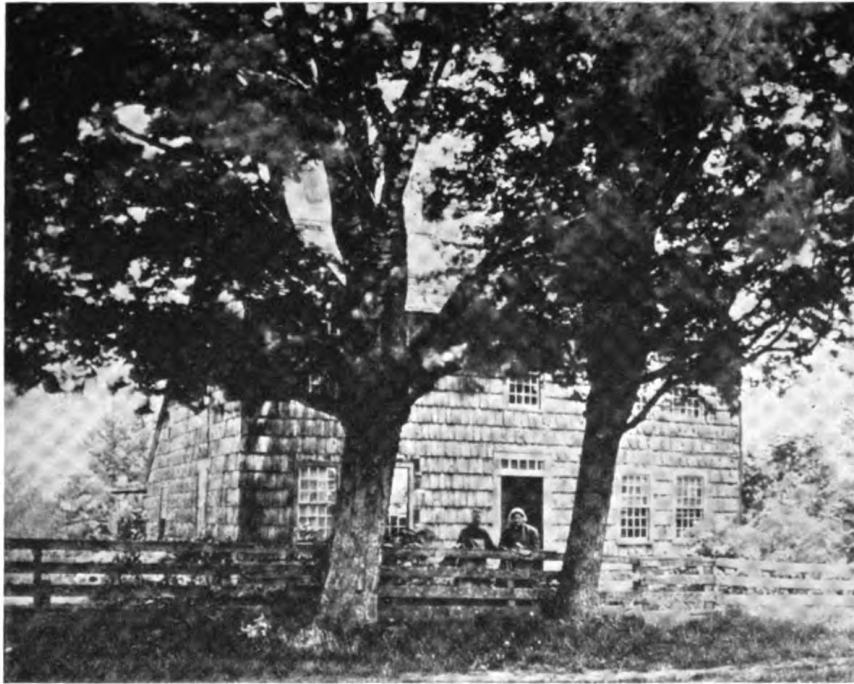
No.		No.	
1	Samuel Saint John	14	John Sturdevant
2	Samuel Keeler Jun ^r	15	Thomas Hyot
3	Jonathan Rockwell	16	Benjamin Wilson
4	Thomas Canfield*	17	Benjamin Hickock†
5	The Proprietors Reserve	18	Matthew Saint John
6	Matthias Saint John	19	Joseph Keeler
7	Joseph Whitney	20	Matthew Seamer
8	Samuel Smith of Milford	21	James Bennedick
9	James Brown	22	Joseph Crampton
10	John Belden	23	Samuel Smith
11	Richard Olmsted		of Norwalk
12	Thomas Smith	24	Daniel Olmsted
13	Jonathan Stevens*	25	Samuel Keeler Sen ^r "

* Mary Bouton, widow, sold to David Scott of Fairfield, June 3rd, 1712, lot No. 13. This lot on the southwest corner of Catoonah Street was granted to her son, Jonathan Stevens. Soon after Mr. Stevens drew this lot, he died. With the purchase were granted all divisions and rights.

† Thomas Rockwell of Norwalk purchased Lot No. 17, (North Corner King Lane and Main Street) from Benjamin Hickok, July 9, 1711.

In order that the location of the original lots may be determined, the present or late owners of them are given. The bounds are not exactly in accordance with the divisions of the present time but are sufficiently accurate for identification. The first burying ground, it will be noted, was at the "southermost" point. A part of this burying ground has been preserved, the town having voted on October 2nd, 1922, to place granite markers at each corner. This plot, however, is only a portion of the original cemetery, as a road was cut through a section of the burying ground about 1850, and the tombstones and remains of the early settlers were carted off. The town in town meeting sanctioned this deed.

- Lot No. 1 formerly the home of John S. Keeler. William G. Foster lives near the northern boundary.
- Lot No. 2 north of the above, extending to Perry Street and now occupied by Mrs. Anson Phelps Stokes; formerly the home of Dr. Nehemiah Perry.
- Lot No. 3 extended from the lot now occupied by Mrs. George S. Gardiner to or near the residence of Cass Gilbert, being occupied also by Malcolm S. Wilson and E. Legrand Beers. The home of the late Miss Augusta Polhemus is also on Lot No. 3.
- Lot No. 4 including Cass Gilbert, Mrs. Wallace T. Jones, Albert H. Storer, and the Misses Annie and Ellen Stone.
- Lot No. 5 reserved by the proprietors for the minister, and occupied originally by Reverend Thomas Hawley. Now occupied by Mrs. D. Lucile Lockwood.
- Lot No. 6 now occupied by Frederic M. Fayerweather and Old Hundred, owned by Richard A. Jackson.



RESIDENCE OF CAPTAIN BENJAMIN KEELER,
later home of John S. Keeler, lower end of Main Street, built on original
proprietors' Lot No. 1. Mrs. Keeler and Sarah Scott (widow of Smith
Scott) in foreground.



RESIDENCE OF MRS. GEORGE S. GARDINER.
This homestead is built on Lot No. 3, settled upon in 1708 by Jonathan Rockwell.



RESIDENCE OF ALBERT H. STORER,
formerly the residence of Czar Jones and his son Ebenezer.



THE OLDEST HOUSE IN RIDGEFIELD,
*built in 1712 or 1713 by
Rev. Thomas Hawley
now the residence of Mrs. D. Lucile Lockwood.*

- Lot No. 7 extending from the north side of Old Hundred to Market Street, including the home and property of Mrs. William H. Allee.
- Lot No. 8 the lot extending from Market Street, including the home of Mrs. Ebenezer W. Keeler, to the north of the residence of the late Phineas C. Lounsbury, now that of William H. Griffith.
- Lot No. 9 from the late residence of Ex-Governor Phineas C. Lounsbury, including the house owned by him, now occupied by Mrs. David B. King, to Governor Street.
- Lot No. 10 from Governor Street to the southerly line of the Masonic Building occupied by the First National Bank and Trust Company, the Gage Building, so called, owned by William H. Griffith, Scott Block, and the Ritch Building.
- Lot No. 11 the Masonic Building, Town House, Bédient Block, Denton Block, and stores northerly owned by Samuel S. Denton.
- Lot No. 12 from the Denton property to the road leading to the railroad station, owned by Willis S. Gilbert, John Lannon, Ernest Scott, Ernest O. Wilson, and Richard W. Osborn.

This completes the easterly side of Main Street.

- Lot No. 13 on the westerly side began at Catoonah Street, now the Ernest Scott Building, extending to the Episcopal Church, including the residence of J. William Benedict, the Keeler Block and rectory.
- Lot No. 14 extended from the north side of the Episcopal Church probably to the southerly bound of the home of Miss Denton Smith.
- Lot No. 15 extended to the southerly bound of Ashland

Cottage, including the home of the late Henry Smith.

Lot No. 16 extended to the southerly boundary of Mrs. Samuel Keeler's property, including the property of Mrs. Charles L. Rockwell, for many years the summer home of Mr. and Mrs. George R. Read.

Lot No. 17 extended from Mrs. Keeler's to King Lane, property now the home of Richard A. Jackson.

Lots No. 18, 19, 20 and 21 Extended from King Lane to West Lane and included the homes of Sanford H. E. Freund, Mrs. Johnston L. de Peyster, the Misses Olive and Janet Boyd, George J. Stengel, Mrs. Ebenezer A. Hoyt and Mrs. Charles F. Hoyt. Mr. Freund is on Lot No. 18, Mrs. de Peyster on Lot No. 19, the Misses Boyd on Lot No. 20, and Mr. Stengel, Mrs. Ebenezer A. Hoyt and Mrs. Charles F. Hoyt on Lot No. 21.

Lot No. 23 occupied now by Louis Joffe and the Misses Hitchcock.

Lot No. 24 occupied now by Lewis H. Losee.

Lot No. 25 extended to the south of William Andrew Benedict's, now occupied by Edward C. Cammann and Mr. Benedict.

Lot No. 22 is not included in the foregoing. It does not appear on the records of the town except that it was drawn by Joseph Crampton. Joseph Crampton located and lived on the land beyond Lot No. 25, the property formerly of Linus O. Northrup and James D. Shaw, and now belonging to Elmer Northrup, Mrs. Backus, Leon B. Morehouse and Victor Betts. Lot. No. 22, evidently having been made a part of Lot No. 23, the present site of the Congregational Church, was occupied by Samuel Smith of Norwalk.



RESIDENCE OF MRS. WILLIAM H. ALLEE.

In the spring of 1709, the proprietors divided and apportioned the land outside of the home lots. This land was selected with the purpose of getting into shape an acreage suitable for grazing, ploughing and raising crops. The proprietors shared equally in this apportionment. A meeting was held, the minutes of which are as follows:

"At a meeting of said proprietors Convened March 1st 1708/09 The proprietors by a Major Vote do agree upon a Division of Plow Land to be Lay'd out as soon as may be. At the said Meeting the Proprietors by a Major Vote have chosen M^r Samuel Keeler Sen^r Matthias Saint John and Samuel Smith for their Committee — To take a view of what Lands are suitable to Lay out a Division of Plow Land within the Limits of One Mile and a half from the Center of the Town Plott, and Lay out what Land they so find into such Divisions as the Land will allow according to the number of proprietors."

Twenty-seven days later another meeting was held.

"At a meeting convened of said Proprietors March 28th 1709 The said Committee make Return of their Doings on the Land found within y^e Limits stated in y^e Vote passed March the 1st as above said, fixing upon six acres to a Division, and accordingly to their best skill and Judgement have Lay'd out a number of Divisions equal to the number of proprietors, allowing to some Divisions more measure than y^e fixt quantity to equalize them with the better Divisions."

In accordance with the vote of the proprietors at the meeting held November 8th, 1708, it will be observed that in this division of land the quantity was determined by the quality. Some of the home lots had more than two and a half acres, and the five acre lots, so-called, in the rear were also added to in some cases. The proprietors evidently did the fair thing with each other, as there is no record of any particular disagreement as to the justice of the partition.

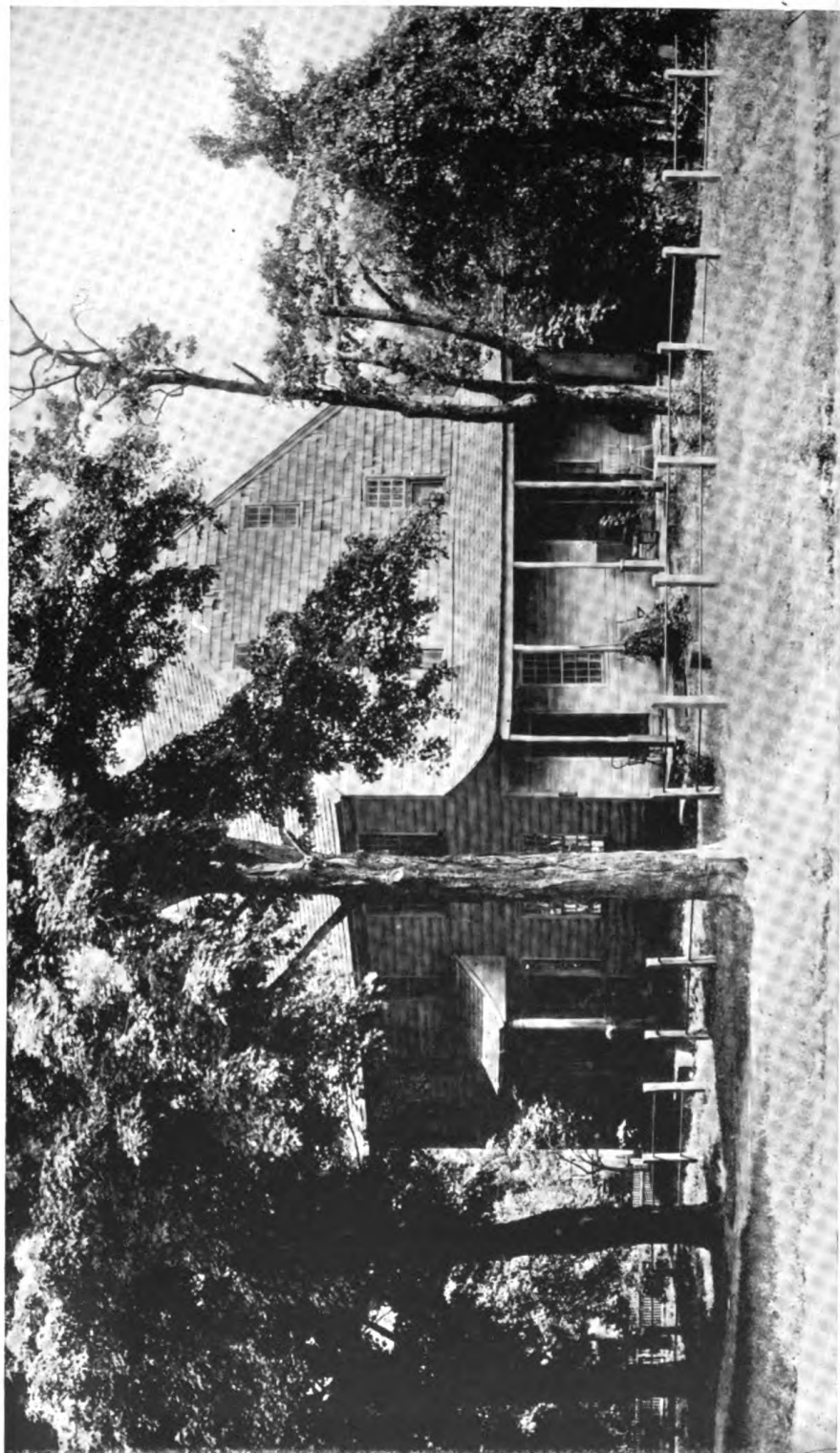
On April 22, 1709, Ebenezer Smith of Milford by a vote of the proprietors was permitted to come to Ridgefield and share equally with the other twenty-five. His

Lot, No. 26, was the present site of the Ridgefield Library, and this property remained in the Smith family until 1900, when it was purchased for the Library Association.

On October 31st, 1709, Joseph Benedict of Norwalk was admitted in the same manner. He settled on the land between Samuel Keeler's and Joseph Crampton's, now owned by W. R. Simpson. This was Lot No. 27.

The proprietors foresaw the necessity of having a blacksmith in Ridgefield and set aside Lot No. 28 for his reservation. We find that the minutes of this town meeting definitely state that it was held in Ridgefield. This was in the year 1712, and this Lot No. 28 was granted to Benjamin Burt. This lot was upon the exact site of the present Methodist Church, corner of Catoonah and Main Streets. The minutes of this meeting are as follows:

"At a Meeting of the Proprietors of Ridgfield at Ridgfield May the 6th A. D. 1712 The said proprietors by their Major Vote Do Grant to Mr Benjamin Burt now resident of Norwalk, a certain Right of land reserved by them for a Blacksmith, which Right of land contains one twenty eighth part of all the purchased Land contained within the limits of their granted propriety or Township With also a priviledge to purchase with them a like proportion of the unpurchased lands that lyeth within y^e granted Bounds of their Township (of the Native proprietors thereof) with all the Several Divisions already Layed out under said Right. To be to him, his heirs and assigns absolutely and as fully to have, Hold, use occupie possess injoy as full and free a manner, with the rest of the proprietors of said Granted Township. Provided he the said Benjamin Burt, pay to Joseph Keeler of said Town of Ridgefield y^e sum of nine pounds in money according to the agreement now made with him. And with all convenient speed dwell as an inhabitant among them in order to carry on the trade of a Blacksmith among them, and forthwith Supply them with an able hand, to perform such Smith work for them, that they stand in need of untill he shall remove with his family among them and be thereby able to perform such work for them himself, or by others under his care and Command, And it is to be understood that if



THE AMOS SMITH TAVERN.
The Library occupies the site of this ancient hostelry.



HOMESTEAD OF THOMAS HAWLEY,
*a Revolutionary Soldier, facing the old Church Yard, now the home of
Mrs. Johnston Livingston de Peyster.*



OLD GRIST MILL AT LAKE MAMANASCO,
original mill erected here in 1716.

the said Burt (shall at any time before the full Termination of four Years from May the Ninth 1712,) have a Mind to remove from them, he shall not give, grant, bargain sell Directly nor Indirectly make any Alienation of said Right of Land granted to him, but to such a person as shall be found capable to carry on the work of a Blacksmith among them. And further the said Burt doth hereby promise and Oblidge himself faithfully to use his utmost endeavor to settle a Blacksmith on said Right. If he shall incline to remove from them after his continuance among them y^e term of Years above said. The above said y^e original Draught of said act

“ Test Richard Olmsted Town Clerk

“ Recorded November 28, 1712

“ Per me John Copp Recorder.”

Mr. Burt evidently remained in town, as he died here and is buried in the Titicus Cemetery. His descendants still live in Ridgefield.

Lot. No. 5 which the Proprietors reserved for a minister was occupied by Reverend Thomas Hawley. He was in Ridgefield as early as 1713, as his signature may be seen upon a deed of that date. The town was very fortunate in having a gentleman of his attainments and culture settle among them. He was a graduate of Harvard College in the class of 1709. He served as register from 1714 until 1735.

The first miller was Daniel Sherwood, and on the 30th day of January, 1716, he agreed with the proprietors to build and operate a grist mill. This agreement is of considerable length, and was known as the Mill Covenant. The agreement was entered into with Mr. Sherwood by the proprietors, and he was granted one twenty-ninth part of the purchased lands.

The Mill Covenant is as follows:

“ To all Christian people to whom these Presents shall Come, Greeting; Know y^e that I Daniel Sherwood of Ridgefield in the County of Fairfield and Colony of Connecticut in New England, For and in Consideration of a

bill of sale of Lands received of the Proprietors of Ridgefield and bearing date with these presents, which is to my full satisfaction. For and upon which consideration aforesaid I the said Daniel Sherwood for myself heirs and assigns, Do by these presents engage unto and Covenant with y^e said Proprietors of Ridgefield, their assigns, and associates, for the faithfull punctual, universal fullfilment of this Covenant, following in every Condition Clause and article hereof viz; "Imprimis, I y^e said Daniel Sherwood do engage for myself heirs and assigns to erect a good sufficient Grist Mill on the Outlet of Mammanasquog Pond so called and known by the Proprietors of Ridgefield.

"2^{dly} I declare myself bound hereby to maintain y^e same and uphold it (or another in the same place) always in good rigg, and order for grinding.

"3^{dly} I covenant for myself heirs and assigns upon y^e Tuesdays and Fridays of every week (when ever water may be had by y^e use of means) to grind for said Proprietors, their heirs assigns and associates all sorts of their grain, well and sufficiently, making good and well conditioned meal, and to take but, and no more, than three quarts out of each bushel of Indian corn, and two quarts out of each bushel of wheat or rye, and one quart of each bushel of malt (that I my heirs or assigns shall grind) for toll.

"Fourthly What was of grain shall be brought to y^e said Mill by the said proprietors, their heirs assigns and associates on the forementioned grinding days, more than can be ground on said days, that it shall on the next following week days be ground without delay, and the said Sherwood do hereby bind and oblige myself heirs and assigns that whatever grain shall be brought on or before any of the said grinding days (on any day) more than the mill grinds on said days, shall be ground out of hand, whether men wait and attend on the grinding thereof or not.

"Furthermore, (according to the original intent of both parties) I y^e said Sherwood do bind and Oblige myself heirs and assigns by virtue of this Covenant (in case of failure and nonperformance of every clause, article and condition according to plain intent, or upon neglect of due means, and all through, seasonable, and faithfull endeavours upon any breaches whatsoever, to rectify keep and maintain y^e same with every thing necessary and

essential thereunto, in good trim and order, for the ends before, covenanted, and accordingly improve it) I say I the said Sherwood by virtue hereof, do bind myself heirs and assigns to forfeit and deliver up y^e said Mill and Stream unto the said proprietors with all its properties and appurtenances and privileges whatsoever in anywise thereunto, shall at the time of forfeiture appertain, hereby Covenanting not to export or carry away any part property or utensill whatsoever thereunto belonging and do upon condition of failure in covenant for myself heirs and assigns give unto the said Proprietors of Ridgefield their heirs and assigns all full power and authority to enter upon possess and enjoy same; and to convert and improve it, to what end and use soever they please by virtue of these presents. In Testimony whereof I do bind myself heirs and assigns set to my hand and seal this thirtieth day of January anno Dominus 1716/17

Daniel Sherwood (SEAL)

In presence of us

Joseph Platt

Ebenezer Barnum

"Ridgefield Jan^r 30th 1716/17 Personally
Appeared Daniel Sherwood y^e subscriber to
this instrument and did acknowledge it for
to be his free act and deed before me

Joseph Platt, Justice

"Received to Record and Recorded

Jany 30th 1716/17 per me

Thomas Hauley Register."

Daniel Sherwood erected the mill on the outlet of Lake Mamasasco, and was given a home lot on Main Street just north of Benjamin Burt's. This lot is now the site of the Martin Block and running northerly to a point on or near the residence of Dr. B. A. Byron. Daniel Sherwood was thus made the twenty-ninth proprietor of the Town of Ridgefield. Daniel Sherwood undoubtedly maintained the mill until his death which occurred in 1749*.

According to a Town Meeting held April 13, 1761, everything was not smooth sailing at Lake Mamasasco

*The will of Daniel Sherwood is printed in the Appendix.

even in those days, for we find that a town meeting held on that date "appointed Sam'l Olmsted, Esq., Sam'l Smith, Esq., Stephen Smith to examine the records of Ridgefield Respecting y^e Grist Mill at Mamenasqua and the Covenant Relating thereto and Report their Opinion Respecting y^e same to a Meeting of y^e Town or Proprietors of Ridgefield for further Determination Relating to sd Mill affair.

"Test Stephen Smith, Register."

On the 27th day of December, 1779, Benjamin Chapman* of Salem signed another covenant similar to the one that the proprietors of the town made with Daniel Sherwood.

Mention is made in the early records of a Trading Post kept by Matthew Seamer at the lower end of the village, the location of which is now the home lot of the Misses Boyd. Tavern Keepers were chosen in Town Meeting. Among those selected for this position we find that Ebenezer Smith was chosen Tavern Keeper at a Town Meeting held December 8th, 1718, and that Mr. Richard Osburn, who lived near the present home of Mrs. Allee, was chosen tavern keeper in 1715.

* The covenant of Benjamin Chapman is recorded in Liber VI, Folio 38, of the town records.

CHAPTER III

THE INDIANS OF RIDGEFIELD

The Indians living in Ridgefield at the time of the purchase of the Township were known as the Ramapoo Tribe. They were governed by Catoonah, the Sachem. As stated in the opening chapter, they sold the tract of land, estimated as being twenty thousand acres, for one hundred pounds without any reservation. After the sale, they left Ridgefield to seek a home farther west. Catoonah died in the town of Bedford where he is buried.

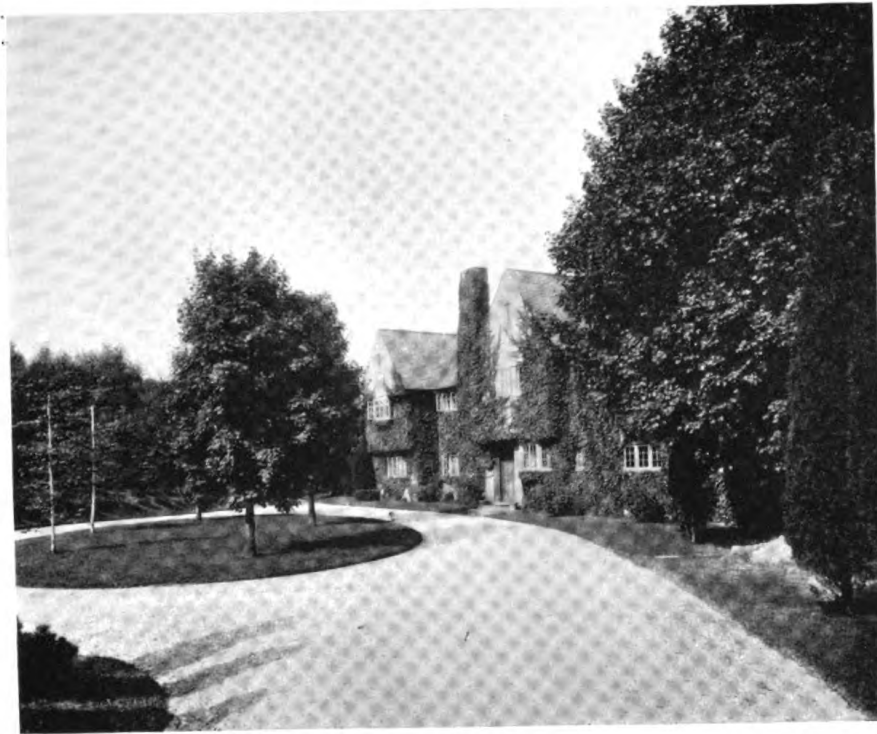
Besides Catoonah, the first deed reveals the names of other Indians of the Ramapoo tribe who put their marks to the document, as follows: Woquacomick, Gootquas, Waspahchain, Wawkamawwee, Narranoke, Cawwehorin, Tawpornick. The second purchase of 1715 was signed by Oreneca, alias Tackora, and the third deed in 1721 is signed by Norreneke, without doubt identical with Narranoke and Oreneca of the preceding deeds. In 1727 we find the names of Richard, Moses, Sam, Japorneck, Wett Hams, and Ammon. Subsequent deeds give us the names of Pawquenongi, Crow, Ah Topper, Mokens, Jacob Turkey, Neshucawpo, Tauquatoose, Waw Call, and Capt Jacob. The last deed in 1739 is signed by Betty, mother of Jacob Turkey, also by Jacob Turkey and Mokquaroose. Betty's mark resembles the Greek letter ϵ . This deed gives us the name of Sciacus, who signed by mark as a witness. The deed given December 6th, 1743, which was the last purchase from the Indians, is signed by James, boans, Kiphaster, Tapornick, Ammon, Crow, Old Mosos, Young Mosos, Tom Mosos, Tom Pornick.

Following the habits and customs of the aborigines, Catoonah and his tribe moved around from one spot to another. There is no question but that they spent much

time on the eastern shores of Lake Mamanasco. They delighted in warm, sunny exposures, and pitched their wigwams where they would be comparatively free from the chilling easterly winds. In winter time they sought sheltered and thick-wooded valleys. It is a matter of regret that we do not know more about the aborigines of our town. Upon the grounds of Henry deB. Schenck and Mrs. Cortland P. Dixon at Lake Mamanasco, arrow heads, bits of pottery and spear heads have been found in considerable numbers. It has been handed down from our forefathers that the Indians had a camping place somewhere in the present village. While it is not certain, this was probably upon the site of the present Elms Hotel and extending down the hill to the stream running west of the railroad station. The brook running north of the Elms and the stream running west of the railroad station which meet at the lower end of this slope, were formerly much larger than at the present time. The large house at the Elms is built upon the former site of the garden of Thomas H. Rockwell. Arrow and spear heads and other Indian relics were found here very frequently in days gone by, almost conclusive evidence that the encampment was at this place.

The Indians living inland often made excursions to the salt water. The inhabitants of Ridgefield of a century ago have handed down stories of seeing families of Indians passing along, returning from the shores of Long Island Sound, with long strings of clams, dried and cured, ready for use. There were Indian trails through the woods and over the mountains. One of the most important of these trails ran from Mud Pond in Pound Ridge through South Salem over West Mountain, passing through what is today called Oreneca Trail. This trail led up the back road near the present home of William Bunker, to Round Pond and thence over the mountain to Lake Mamanasco.

There was an old Indian who lived on West Mountain,



NYDEGGEN,
Residence of Henry deB. Schenck, Lake Mamanasco.



HOME ON PICTURESQUE WEST MOUNTAIN.
Residence of Richard V. Culter.

by name Indian John. Another Indian who lived and died in that section was buried in the swamp east of the corner near the present residence of Richard V. Culter. Over in Florida District in the woods east of the Cemetery lived Seymour Gregory and his wife Lydia. Seymour and his wife were not full blood, but part negro. Soon after the death of Lydia, the old hut burned down and Seymour lived around the neighborhood, sleeping in barns. Both are buried in the back part of the Florida Cemetery in unmarked graves. Old Poctocton was another Indian and lived on the easterly side of Copp's Mountain or Stonecrest Ridge. His hut was just east of Stonecrest on the side of the mountain near the Norwalk River. Poctocton built up a wall of stones, ruins of which may still be seen, and covering them over, made quite a hut.

An interesting Indian character who spent some time in the eastern section of our town was Chicken Warrups, or as he was often called, Chickens. Chickens came from Redding. His original home was in Greenfield Hill. There is a large rock on the shores of Great Pond near the southwest corner, which is still called Chicken's Rock, as it was a favorite spot where the old warrior used to sit. In 1749 Chickens exchanged his one hundred acres in Redding with John Read, for two hundred acres at Schaghticoke in the town of Kent. The land in Kent was bounded on the east by the Housatonic River and west by the Kent Mountains. It was near the Indian Reservation, which is familiar to the tourist passing up the Housatonic Valley. Chicken Warrups died about 1765.

His son, Tom Warrups, served faithfully with the American forces in the Revolutionary War, enlisting from Redding.

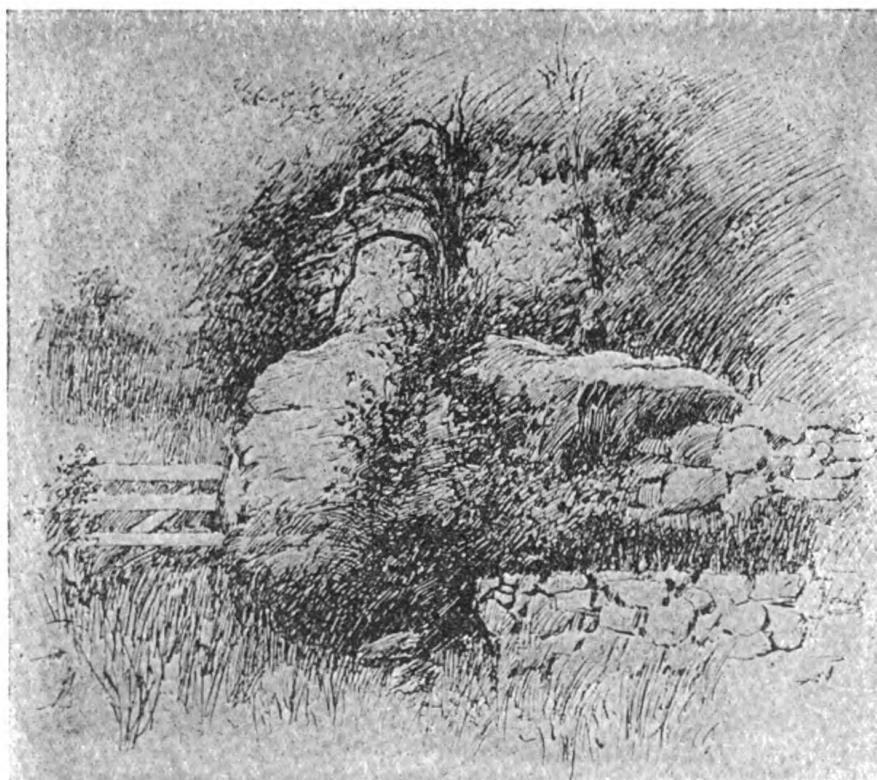
Another Indian lived on the corner of Gilbert and Main Streets, the present location of the Reed residence. That section was then called "The Clay-Holes." According to a record furnish by Mr. Abijah Resseguie a short time

before his death, this Indian was called Yebecum. That an Indian lived there is known beyond a doubt, but the strange part is that Reverend Samuel G. Goodrich gives among the inhabitants of the town at that time a Welshman by the name of Yabbacum. In Whipstick district, east of the Nod Road on the present farm of Mortimer C. Keeler, is Tony's Cave. Tony was an Indian who, strange as it may seem, hid in this cave to escape service in the Revolutionary War.

Within the memory of many of the people now living in Ridgefield, were Peter and Indian Jane. Black Pete, he was sometimes called, on account of his swarthy appearance. Peter came from Canada and claimed to be from the Mic Mac tribe. This couple had several camping places, their favorite spot being at Mamanasco, near the old mill. They also spent much time at Umpawaug Pond, having a camp at the north end. This camp was a small wigwam, or lean-to, with a blanket hung in front of it for a door. They slept on the ground with their feet towards a fire kindled within the hut near the entrance. Still another camping place was back on the hill east of the railroad about a half mile north of Branchville Station. There is today a pile of rocks laid over a bad section of the path, called Peter's Bridge, which he built for the use of himself and Jane in passing up from the road to their hut. Peter and Jane were a little weazened-up old couple. They made baskets, coloring the splints in bright hues of vermilion, blue or yellow. They sold them around the country, and there are still specimens of their skill owned by people around Ridgefield and vicinity. A favorite route travelled by them in selling their wares was through West Redding, Grassy Plain Street in Bethel, and thence into Danbury.

A striking evidence of Indian handiwork discovered in Ridgefield was a large canoe, which was found in Great Pond about 1875. It was hollowed out of a large tree,

and was estimated to be about twenty feet long. It was found near the south end of the pond, where it had lain in the mud probably for a hundred years. When found, the bow had rotted off.



SETTLERS' ROCK

*opposite Titicus School House. Five of the First Proprietors
spent their first night in Ridgefield on this rock.*

CHAPTER IV

SETTLERS' ROCK

Ridgefield is one of the hill towns of Connecticut, and possesses such unusual natural topographical beauty that it has been called queen of them all. Although it has not the grandeur of high mountains, as some of our sister towns in Litchfield County, yet the natural beauty of its hills and valleys, its wooded slopes, and streams and lakes, is unsurpassed. Ridgefield is more elevated than any of the neighboring towns and from its innumerable hilltops an extensive and sweeping view is obtained of the surrounding country.

To the north, the high hills of Danbury, New Fairfield and lower Litchfield County rise most imposingly. To the east, the Bethel and Redding hills, interspersed with wooded vales, give us a charming view, and from early dawn till sunrise are most inspiring. To the south, the country is more rolling, sloping in undulations toward Long Island Sound, distant some fourteen miles.* On a clear day, this beautiful body of water may be seen for a stretch

* The burning of the steamboat Lexington on the night of January 13th, 1840, off Eaton's Neck, Long Island, was seen by many of the people of Ridgefield. The Lexington left New York for Stonington at four o'clock in the afternoon, and when off Eaton's Neck, fire was discovered, due probably to an overheated smoke-pipe. The Lexington was built in 1835 and Commodore Vanderbilt, the owner, appeared upon the boat on her first trip. The motto of the line was "Through by Daylight." The Lexington was nicely furnished and became a very popular boat. She was speedy and the rate of passage was less than on her competitors. Before the time of her burning, she had been laid off for repairs; but on account of the ice upon the Sound that night, the Lexington, being the staunchest boat of the fleet, was placed in service. She carried at least one hundred and fifty passengers on this trip, and many of them were eating supper when the alarm of fire was heard. Only four from the vessel were saved. Many clinging to wreckage suffered and died from the intense cold. From Farmingville, Whipstick and High Ridge this terrible conflagration was plainly visible.

of many miles, its appearance being like the sky itself, now blue, now gray, now glistening in the sunshine, with Long Island in the background, also seemingly a part of the sky, but deeper and firmer in its colors. At times the Sound appears as a stream of silver. Steamboats, yachts, schooners and sloops may easily be seen upon its waters. To the west we have our highest and most commanding range of hills, West Mountain and Titicus Mountain. Beyond is a beautiful rolling country, stretching to the Hudson River, with the Highlands, and the hills of Putnam and Dutchess Counties in the distance, giving us a spreading landscape wonderful to behold. Nowhere do the sunsets seem more beautiful, more glorious than those of our beloved town.

The Main Street of Ridgefield is well known throughout the nation. Our forefathers wisely laid out our street a generous width. Nature, aided by the art of man, has made this village street famous, with the arching trees and shaded lawns, its colonial dwellings and refined homes of modern times.

Ridgefield has been particularly blest in its freedom from epidemics. However, from February 14th, 1812, to February 14th, 1813, a year and a day, twenty-nine people lost their lives from a prevailing fever. So exceptional was the result of the epidemic that the town clerk, Samuel Stebbins, recorded upon the margin of the page that "This mark * prefixed denotes that the person Died of a prevailing fever." An asterisk is placed before the names, the first death being that of Abigail, the wife of Jared Northrup, February 14, 1812. Thomas Seymour died the next day. Among the list of those who were thus taken away were three veterans of the Revolutionary War;

Stephen Remington died March 1, 1812, Michael Warren died April 8th, 1812, aged 69, and Captain Henry Whitney died February 14, 1813, aged 66. Captain Whitney was the last one in the list. Among the other names we find Delight Benedict, the teacher of Peter Parley, who died June 10th, 1812, in her 54th year; Doctor Elisha Alvord, April 10th, 1812; Widow Hannah Sherwood died April 15th, 1812, in her 85th year; Jesse Baker Bradley, infant son of Jesse S. Bradley, aged 14 months; Charity, (a Black Girl) March 11, 1812; Deborah, the wife of Deacon Ebenezer Hawley, March 30th, 1812, in her 60th year; Mary, the wife of Philip Bradley, April 9th, 1812, aged 31 years, 1 month, 20 days. The deceased did not live in any particular section of the township. Some lived in Ridgebury and others in the extreme lower part of the town.

It is generally estimated that Ridgefield is one thousand feet above the sea, and although there are sections approaching eleven hundred feet, our Main Street averages about seven hundred and sixty feet. The highest point in town is Pine Mountain, in Ridgebury district, which is one thousand and forty feet.

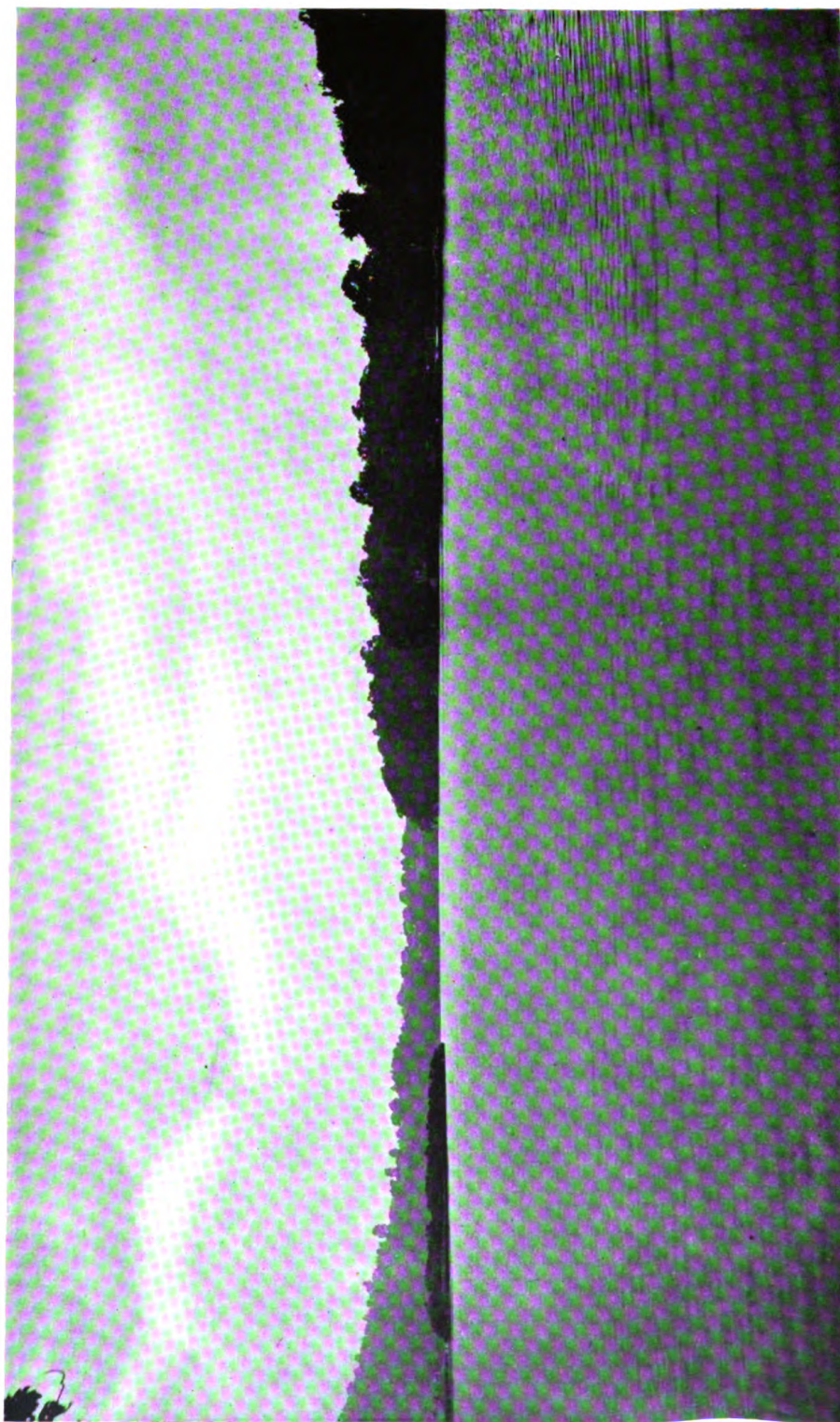
The largest and most extensive high tract is Scotts Ridge or Titicus Mountain. This varies from nine hundred to one thousand and twenty feet. Upon the northern point of this mountain is the Port of Missing Men. The lowest point in town is near Branchville Station, which is given an altitude of three hundred and forty-two feet, while Topstone Station, two miles above, on the Redding line, is four hundred and thirty-seven feet. Ridgefield Station is approximately seven hundred feet above the sea and three hundred and sixty feet above Branchville. Titicus

Valley is seven hundred feet, the street itself in some places being seven hundred and ten*.

Ridgefield is the fourth town in the county in length of rivers, having sixty-six miles of stream. As an illustration of the elevation of our township, we have streams from whose sources water empties into the Housatonic River, the Hudson River and Long Island Sound. Ridgefield has ten natural lakes or ponds, containing one hundred and eighty-three acres. The largest lake is Mamanasco, in Scotland District, which contains one hundred and four acres, and is five hundred and seventy-seven feet above sea level. Round Lake, a mile to the west of Mamanasco, is the second lake in size, containing thirty-two acres and having an elevation of seven hundred and sixty-eight feet. The remaining eight ponds have a combined area of forty-seven acres.

The principal streams in the township are the Norwalk River, which in the upper part of its course is called the Limestone River; Mopus, which flows through Spring Valley in Ridgebury District and empties into the Titicus River, which, flowing through the Titicus Valley, finally discharges its waters into the Croton. Cooper Brook, rising

* Many of the hill tops in different sections of our township have been acquired by our summer residents as sites for their homes. West Mountain has been a favorite section on account of its high elevation, which ranges from 900 to 960 feet. Among those who have their homes upon this contour are Honorable William Harrison Bradley, Jonathan Bulkley, Arthur C. Fraser, John H. Lynch, Mrs. B. McE. Emmett, William Bunker, Dr. L. D. Weiss, Jonathan Peterson, Joseph H. Conron, and Miss Mary Linda Bradley. This range of hills was called by the Indians "Asoquatah." The residence of Philip D. Wagoner on Round Lake has an elevation of 800 feet. The elevation of Outpost Farm, the residence of Colonel Louis D. Conley, is 740 feet.



LAKE MAMANASCO
originally dammed by beavers.

in the southern portion of Great Swamp, and a tributary of the Norwalk River, which it joins at Branchville Station, is a beautiful stream abounding in waterfalls and cascades. All of these streams are natural waters for trout.

Lake Mamanasco still retains its Indian name, meaning Grassy Pond. It was originally dammed by the beavers. This name is written also Mamanasquag, Mamanasquogg, and Mummenusquash. Mopus and Titicus Rivers, both named by the Indians, are still called by the aboriginal names*. However, Titicus River retains but a portion of its ancient name, Mutighticoos. In the Cortlandt Manor map of 1609, "Westchester under the Mohegan Indians," we find this name thus spelled. Upon the old records of Ridgefield, we find it spelled "Metiticus." This beautiful stream rises in the foot-hills of West Mountain and from its source to its *embouchure* with the Croton flows through a delightful country, now rippling between wooded banks or tumbling over rocky falls, and in its lower course flowing slowly through lowland and meadows. Tradition tells us that Mutighticoos River was at one time called Buffalo Creek. Van der Donck, a historian of Yonkers, writing in 1656, says: "Buffaloes are also tolerably plenty; these animals mostly keep towards the southwest."

Near the entrance to Fairlawn Cemetery still remains in its original condition a large boulder, known as "Settlers' Rock." Five of the first proprietors, who came to Ridgefield on an exploring expedition, camped upon this rock for the night. The howling of wolves and the cry

* The outlet of Lake Waccabuc was called, on the Cortlandt Manor map, Peppeneghek.

of the wild-cat filled them with terror, and one can imagine that daylight was greeted with much joy.

In the early days, Connecticut was filled with game. Wild animals were numerous. Dr. Peters, in his *History of Connecticut*, published in 1781, gives an interesting account of the fauna of Connecticut one hundred and fifty years ago. It is recorded by him that the whapperknocker was a dweller in our midst at that time. The author has discussed this creature with eminent zoologists, and none has been able to tell just what the whapperknocker is. The description is given as follows: "The whapperknocker is somewhat bigger than a weasel, and of a beautiful red-brown color. He lives in the woods on worms and birds, is so wild no man can tame him, and, as he never quits his harbors in the day time, is only to be taken by traps in the night. Of the skins of these animals which are covered with exceeding fine fur, are made muffs at the prices of forty guineas apiece; so that it is not without reason the ladies pride themselves on the possession of this small appurtenance of female habiliment." From the description given, one might be inclined to identify the whapperknocker as the mink; but on an accompanying page is given a list of the denizens of our ancient forests and among them the historian mentions the otter and the mink. In the opinion of the author, it was the Hudson Bay Sable or Pine Marten. This beautiful animal is seldom seen in Connecticut today, even in its most lonely and wildest sections.

On Stonecrest Farm in Titicus district is located the "Bears Den," and such it has been called for over a century and a half. It is only a matter of conjecture just when this section of woods and rocks ceased to be a home of

the bear. The author was told many years ago by Benjamin Lee of Farmingville, that his grandfather, Daniel Lee, killed a large black bear one winter day. Mr. Lee was drawing logs with his oxen to a saw-mill on the Norwalk River, and was passing through the woods, now a part of the estate of Louis Morris Starr, about a half mile north of the present Farmingville Schoolhouse. A large black bear rose up in his path. Mr. Lee seized one of the stakes from the sled, and by a lucky blow broke the bear's back.

All large game has disappeared from our township save the deer. Thanks to our game laws, these beautiful creatures are becoming more numerous, and it is not an uncommon sight to see them while one is driving upon our roads, or to look from the windows of our homes and see them feeding in a neighboring field, and even upon the lawns around the house. Of the fur bearing animals, the mink and otter are more numerous than one might suppose. Then we have the fox, both red and grey, the rabbit, weasel, muskrat, raccoon, skunk, woodchuck, the red, grey and flying squirrel, and occasionally a wildcat is seen. Two porcupines have been seen in town within a few years, and occasionally an opossum is captured. The partridge or ruffed grouse is still very common, and our grandest game bird. Ringnecked pheasants are plentiful, due to propagation with the help of the state. Quail of the old fashioned type, called at times Bog Quail, are practically extinct, but the Virginia quail may be seen often, and woodcock in their migratory flight are plentiful.

The late Edward J. Couch of Whipstick district made one of the most complete ornithological collections of native birds of the New England states. Mr. Couch was a taxidermist of unusual ability. This collection numbers sev-

eral hundred specimens, and is now owned by his son, Edward S. Couch, and can be seen at the Couch homestead. The wild pigeon, now extinct, and other rare birds form a part of this collection. The majority of these birds were mounted between the years 1860 and 1880. Specimens of nearly every variety of bird, both perennial and migratory, to be found in New England, are in this collection.

CHAPTER V

COLONIAL LIFE AND ACTIVITIES


The colonial days in Ridgefield were very much the same as those of other towns which were settled on the eastern seaboard. The settlers came to Ridgefield with high ideals and the lofty purpose of establishing homes for themselves and their families, where they could live in peace, according to the dictates of their conscience.

They were willing to sacrifice the comforts of the well established communities, from which they came, to attain these worthy ends. Their strong Christian characters enabled them to overcome all obstacles and lay the foundation of an ideal, home-loving community. They had a fine conception of the rights, privileges and aspirations of each other.

As soon as the first proprietors were settled in the town, other families were attracted to Ridgefield, came in, bought land and erected their houses. Within four years from the date of the settlement, a meeting house was erected on the Green, in front of the old Hawley homestead, now the home of Mrs. dePeyster. This was used as a church, meeting house and school house. Log houses were built until the saw mill was established. The spinning wheel and the rifle were in every home; the former providing clothing and the latter food for the family from the game which was abundant in the adjacent forests.

The people were very poor and for many years could not realize much from the land which must be cleared. Stone "bees," clearing "bees," and raising "bees" were held. The men of the village would come together and with their cattle, clear the stones and stumps from tracts of land, thus assisting each other in this slow and laborious task. Until 1760, all the land except the home lots and

the fields in which crops were raised, was pastured in common. In 1760, the common land was distributed among the various landowners in the township, and then each person enclosed his own land.

At a General Assembly held at Hartford in May, 1714, was given "the brand for the town of Ridgefield to brand their horses with this figure ."

Although entries of ear marks were made in the town records as early as 1712, it was voted at a Town Meeting held December 9th, 1728, "that all Ear marks of Creatures be entred in y^e Town Book. According to y^e above here Follows Ridgefield mark for Creatures." A few of the marks are given as follows:

"Joseph Benedict's Ear mark, is One happeny On y^e under side of y^e near Ear — Recorded October 6th, 1712

Richard Olmsted, Recorder."

"Richard Olmstedd's Ear mark is one half penny on y^e foreside of y^e near Ear. — Recorded Dec. 1, 1712."

"Henry Whitne Ear mark is a step on y^e foreside of y^e near Ear. — Recorded Dec. 1, 1712."

"David Scott's Ear mark is a crop on y^e near Ear and a Swallowfork on y^e off. — Recorded Oct. 16, 1716.

Per me Thomas Hawley, Recorder."

"Jonathan Rockwell's Ear mark is an half penny on y^e fore side each ear — Recorded Jany 7, 1714¹⁵."

"Isaac Smith's Ear mark for Creatures is a W on y^e top of y^e near Ear — Recorded Jan. 1st, 1728⁹."

"Jabez Rockwell's mark is three happennys under y^e off Ear — recorded April 2, 1731."

"Sea Born Burt's Ear mark is an half penny y^e foreside of each Ear, and a nick under the near Ear. — Recorded Feb. 27, 1732³."

It was several years before the land was in any condition to produce bountiful crops. The people traded among themselves. The roads were poor, mere trails; the principal outlet was probably by the road running from Danbury to Norwalk, which is described in the "First Purchase from the Indians," as "The Danbury Old Cart Path."

The records of the township, in spite of the hardships, were well kept, and show the perseverance, and sense of responsibility and high morality which pervaded the settlement.

Large families were the rule, as other pages in this volume will disclose. Clothing was made by each family from wool produced by its own sheep. In those days every farmer raised sheep and flax. A woman then would take her flax wheel, which could be taken apart, and her baby and a bundle of flax and spend the day at a neighbor's, spinning and enjoying a social time as well. All the women folks could spin the wool and flax into yarn and thread, and then they knit stockings and mittens, and wove the linen into cloth. Many of these early settlers had hand looms, and the fabrics they made were dyed with much skill. Blue was the favorite color in those days, the goods being dyed with indigo. The juice of the golden-rod, mixed with indigo and alum, made a beautiful green. Red was made with a mixture of madder, cochineal and logwood, while hickory bark was used for brown and yellow. Each family made its own soap and candles. Soft soap was made from fats and grease, and lye from wood ashes. Hard soap was made from the tallow of the bayberry. In those days little hard soap was purchased, even in the cities. The winter stock of candles was made in the fall. The wicks were made of tow, and were sometimes dipped in saltpetre to make them burn more clearly. All kinds of fats and grease were utilized in candle making. The berries from the bayberry bushes were also used.

Apples were cut in slices and hung up to dry, strung from the rafters in the attics, and apple-sauce was made by the barrel and kept in the cellar. Only sweet apples were used in the making of apple-sauce, and these were first pared and quartered. Cider was boiled, and then the apples were put into the boiling cider, and the mixture boiled thoroughly. Prepared in this way, the apple-sauce

would keep all winter. Sometimes quinces were added to the apples to give a different flavor. In making the applesauce four barrels of cider were used to one barrel of apples.

In his "Recollections of a Life-Time," Mr. Goodrich tells us that "every Autumn, it was a matter of course that we had a fat ox or a fat cow, ready for slaughter. One full barrel was salted down; and thus became 'dried' or 'hung beef,' then as essential as the staff of life. Pork was managed in a similar way, though on an even larger scale, for two barrels were indispensable. A few pieces, as the spare-ribs, &c., were distributed to the neighbors, who paid in kind when they killed their swine." Large flocks of geese were kept, which were picked three times a year, and our forefathers slept on beds well filled with geese feathers.

The details of the early settlement of the town are very incomplete, although the public records from the beginning have been preserved until the present time in splendid condition. These records are not an account of the big events, but reflect the simplicity of life in early Ridgefield. The main concern of these people was making homes for themselves and living in the fear of God. They built their homes in the Ridgefield wilderness, and by their consistent sacrifices developed the home village for future generations. We, today, cannot realize the hardships that our forefathers suffered to promote the general good of Ridgefield and its people.

Few of the towns in Connecticut can compare favorably with Ridgefield as to the completeness of early records. In fact, there are births inscribed upon our records that occurred before the town was settled. The explanation of this is very simple. In recording the births of the children born in Ridgefield, parents also included in this same record the names of those that were born to them before they came to Ridgefield, whole families being

grouped together. As an example, we find the birth of Seaborn Burt, the son of Benjamin and Sarah Burt, who was born July 4th, 1706. This child was born on the ocean while his parents were coming to America; hence the name Seaborn. This record was obtained from the Burt family, and many descendants of this man are living in Ridgefield today.

John Copp of Norwalk, a school teacher and surveyor, was the first Register or Town Clerk. At a town meeting convened in Ridgefield December 23rd, 1709, which meeting was probably the first held in town, we find that the town "by a major vote have chosen and desire John Copp of y^e town of Norwalk to accept y^e office of Register for us to Record what by Law is Required for y^e year Insuing, and on Feb. 3, 1710 was sworn according to Law. Recorded February 3, 1709¹⁰. John Copp Recorder."

Mr. Copp served until December 13th, 1714, when the Reverend Thomas Hawley was elected to this position. The town was very fortunate, from the beginning, in having these men to serve it in this important office.

A map of Great Swamp, or as it was called Thousand Acres, was drawn by Town Clerk Thomas Hawley in 1718. Then, as now, the people cut large quantities of firewood from this tract. A road ran across the swamp continuing on east, following the present old lane running easterly from the Walker homestead, coming out in Farmingville. Another road, as may be seen on the map, entered the swamp back of the present Novitiate of the Holy Ghost Fathers.

As early as 1719, according to an old account book, travelers were accommodated at the Smith house which stood on the site of the present library. So many strangers and visitors came to Ridgefield, that in 1797 Amos Smith built an Inn on this same site. The upper room was used for balls, for a court room at times, and church parties.

The Keeler Tavern, as told elsewhere, was at the lower end of the street, and was the larger of the two inns.

The town was poor, as is shown from a petition asking the General Assembly to exempt the inhabitants of Ridgefield from taxation. The following is the act passed by the General Assembly May, 1725:

"The towns of Ashford, Hebron, Ridgefield, New Town, and New Milford shall proceed to take and make a list of all the polls and ratable estate by their listers, this present year, as other towns in this colony do. And if either of the said towns are destitute of listers as the law directs, to do the work, that then in such case, such town so destitute, shall sometime in the month of June next meet together and choose a suitable number of their inhabitants to be listers, who shall be sworn to that office accordingly, who shall take the said list and transmit the same to this Assembly to be holden at New Haven in October next."

The town was really unable to pay its taxes to the Colony. Its petition was granted by the Assembly, as follows:

"Upon consideration of the petition of the inhabitants of the town of Ridgefield; This Assembly grants them an exemption for two years from publick taxes; provided they draw no money out of the treasury for the schools, nor send any representatives to attend this Assembly during such exemption."

At the end of two years, the town was obliged to ask for further exemption, which was granted by the General Assembly. In 1740 Ridgefield and Litchfield were censured and fined by the General Assembly for not paying their taxes. In this respect Ridgefield had very good company. This act of May 8th, 1740, was as follows:

"Forasmuch as by one law of this colony entitled An Act directing listers in their duties and office, it is provided that, if the listers in the respective towns in this Colony, shall not annually send the sum total of the list of the polls, and ratable estates of the inhabitants of such

[illegible]

towns, to this Assembly, at their sessions in October, such town shall be doomed by this Assembly; And whereas the listers of the towns of Ridgefield and Litchfield respectively, have not sent the sum total of such lists of the polls and ratable estate in their respective towns to the sessions of this Assembly in October last, according as it is in said act provided, This Assembly do sentence and doom the inhabitants of the Town of Ridgefield to pay into the publick treasury of this Colony the sum of twenty-nine pounds, fifteen shillings, and the inhabitants of the town of Litchfield the sum of twenty-seven pounds, six shillings, and four pence; and the Treasurer is ordered and directed to send forth his warrant to the constables of the said towns, respectively, to levy and collect the said sums of the inhabitants of the towns to which they belong, and to pay the same to the publick treasury; and the said constables are impowered, respectively, to levy the said sums of the inhabitants, and required to pay in the same to the publick treasury, as is by law required in cases where the lists are orderly returned to this Assembly."

Reverend Samuel Goodrich in his "Statistical Account of Ridgefield," which he prepared in 1800, speaks of the large number of poisonous snakes that were found in Ridgefield at the time of the first settlement. One method for destroying these reptiles was the turning of swine among them, and after a few years the destruction in the settled parts of the town was almost complete. The snakes referred to are the rattlesnake and the copperhead.

The matter of animals running in the streets and highways and trespassing on the property of others than their owners was frequent in the early days. There were several pounds erected in town, and this subject received much attention at town meetings. The first pound "was built upon the church yard," and at a town meeting held December 27th, 1727, Joseph Lees was chosen "Keeper of y^e Pound Key." The location of other pounds in the town may be of interest. On December 19, 1737, the town voted to allow the inhabitants of Ridgebury to build a pound on that tract of land laid out for the meeting house.

On December 18, 1753, the town in town meeting voted to build a pound in Scotland District. The apparent location of this pound was on the back road south of the school house just below the corner, opposite the present house of Mrs. C. P. Dixon. The resolution reads:

"It was voted that there shall be a New Pound built in y^e Lane northward of where David Scott lives to be 30 foot in Length, & 25 foot in Breadth & to Consist or be built with 4 sills and 4 plates & four new posts & Eight Braces all of good Sound White Oak timber hewn Square & well framed together & to be 5 foot between y^e sills & plates."

A town meeting of December 15, 1766, "ordered a pound to be erected near the place where Matthew Seymour's trading shop stood at the lower end of the village, and likewise another pound in Ridgebury Society between John Whitlock's and the burying ground of said Society." Caleb Lobdell was chosen Keeper of the Pound Key for the first pound, and John Whitlock for the second.

December 15th, 1789, it was "voted that the pound granted to be built in some part of Bennett's Farm District may be built in that part of the town called Limestone near the parting of the roads near the Dwelling house of Ebenezer Lobdell & not at Bennett's Farms upon the same conditions."

Another pound which was built in town stood nearly opposite the present South Ridgebury School House. The old walls, somewhat fallen, may be seen today. At a town meeting December 14, 1795,

"Voted, that a Pound be built y^e South side the Rocks, in the street on y^e west side the Path near Samuel Stebbins Dwelling House not to contain more ground in it, than is equal to Forty feet Square."

This pound, if built, would have stood about opposite the entrance to the Olcott place, but we find that in the following year on December 12, 1796, the vote was rescinded, and the pound erected further north on the cor-

ner of the present street called Pound Street. The vote at this meeting was as follows:

Voted on Recommendation that the Pound voted to be built last year shall be set in the Street North of & near the Bridge north of Samuel Stebbins Barn at such place as the Selectmen shall choose."

At a town meeting on December 4, 1786, at the Independent School House, among other matters it was voted "that Swine have liberty to go at large on the Highways and Commons provided they are Ringed, after they are two months old, and that in the Months of December, January and February they may go at large without Ringing." At a town meeting held October 1st, 1854, it was voted that "Horses, Neat Cattle, Mules, Swine and Geese shall be prohibited from running at large on the Highways or Commons of this town."

At another meeting held October 5th, 1857, it was voted that "the impounding of animals in Ridgefield was for Horses, Asses & Mules twenty-five cents each. Neat Cattle twelve cents each, Swine ten weeks old or more eight cents each and Sheep six cents."

There are many interesting records of cattle being taken up and impounded. The following illustrations are given:

"Gamaliel Northrop Enters a Reddish Dun heifer Coming two years old, with a Star in y° forehead & three white feet, also y° belly or part of y° tail white, Ear marked with a Crop on y° near ear & he Judges, part of y° under side y° off Ear cut off Resembling a slipe. Entered Nov. y° 27, 1756."

"Samuel Smith y° 4th Enteres a Dark Red Bull Coming two years old, with Some white under his belly — Ear marked with a Step under y° off Ear & a nick under y° same. Entered November y° 20th, 1760."

"Taken up astray by Henry Whitney, Jr., on y° 29th day of Nov. 1796, A.D., a sorrell mare with a white Starr on her forehead & a white Slip on her Nose light mane & Tail, rising 14 hands high: judged to be about 7 or 8

years & fully shod all around & no artificial Mark or Brand: trots and paces.

Entered Dec. 13, 1796."

Thomas Benedict found a bell described as follows:

"Thomas Benedict enters a Midling Sized Bell with a Good Strap & a Large buckle. Entered November y^e 9th, 1756."

It is worthy of note that even in New England in spite of our later kindly abolitionist sentiment, we had in colonial times slaves in Ridgefield. Upon the town records are sales not only of real estate but also of human beings. The following deed quoted from the records is an interesting proof of this fact:

"Know all men by these presents, that I David Scott, of Ridgefield, in the county of Fairfield and Colony of Connecticut for the consideration of two hundred pounds, current money of said colony, to me in hand well and truly paid by Vivus Dauchy of Ridgefield, aforesaid have bargained and sold and by these presents do fully and absolutely bargain, sell, convey and confirm unto the said Vivus Dauchy, his executors and administrators, a certain negro woman named Dinah, and a negro boy, named Peter, to be servants or Slaves during the term of their natural lives, together with all their wearing apparel. To have and to hold the said slaves as aforesaid to the said Dauchy, his executors and administrators for the term of their lives.

And I, the said David Scott, do hereby covenant to defend said slaves to said Dauchy, his executors and administrators against the lawful claims of every person whatsoever.

In witness whereof I have hereunto signed, sealed and delivered this deed of sale, together with the said negro woman named Dinah and the negro boy, named Peter, this 13th day of February, A. D. 1740.

Ebenezer Smith } Witness. (Signed) David Scott."
Timothy Keeler }

Recorded June 19th, 1749.

In November, 1777, another record reads as follows:

Ridgfield, November 21st, A. D., 1777

Pursuant to an act passed by the General Assembly of the State of Connecticut, Concerning liberality or letting free their servants or Slaves, Mr. Jonathan Ingersoll having a man, Cyphax by name, being twenty years old (with the consent and approbation of s^d Cyphax) did present s^d Cyphax before us the Subscribers, Selectmen of s^d Ridgfield, and we do Judge him an Able bodied Man, and as likely to get a Living as men in common in his Condition, are, — and do therefore approve of his being Liberated or Set free according to s^d Act of Assembly, as witness our hands the day & year above witness in presence of

Jonathan Ingersoll

Sam'l. Olmsted	Nathan Olmsted	} Select Men
Nathan Olmsted, 2 nd	Stephen Smith	
	Timothy Keeler	

Received to Record November 21st, 1777 Cyphax
& recorded, per me Stephen Smith,
Register.

Know all men by these presents that I, Jonathan Ingersoll of Ridgfield in y^e County of Fairfield & State of Connecticut, having Obtained y^e Approbation of y^e Selectmen of Ridgfield, according to y^e direction of assembly in this State in their last session, I do, for y^e Love & Goodwill, I have for my Negro Man Servant Cyphax, emancipate, Liberate and make free him y^e s^d Cyphax, from me, my heirs, executors, administrators, and by these presents he, y^e s^d Cyphax is made free, emancipated & Liberated from me, my heirs, Executors & Administrators for Ever; And in Testimony & Confirmation of y^e same, I do hereunto Set my hand & Seal this 21st day of November 1777.

In presence of Jonathan Ingersoll

Thaddeus Sturgis

John Waterous

Recorded November 24th, 1777 per me
Stephen Smith, Register.

A record of the birth of a slave is given:

"I, Stephen Smith, of Ridgefield in Fairfield County Certify that I had Born on the 14th day of December A. D. 1795 a Negro female child which I have named Nancy, which child by the Law of the State will be free at the

Age of Twenty-five years. Said Child was Born of my Negro Slave Jenny, at the time above mentioned.

Philip B. Bradley } Witnesses (Signed) Stephen Smith
Azor Beldine }

Fairfield County SS Ridgefield, May 21, A. D. 1798, Personally appeared Stephen Smith the Subscriber to the above Certificate and made Oath that the same is true according to his best Knowledge and Belief. Sworn before me Philip B. Bradley, Justice Peace

Received to Record May 21, 1798, and recorded per me
Sam^l Stebbins, T. Clerk."

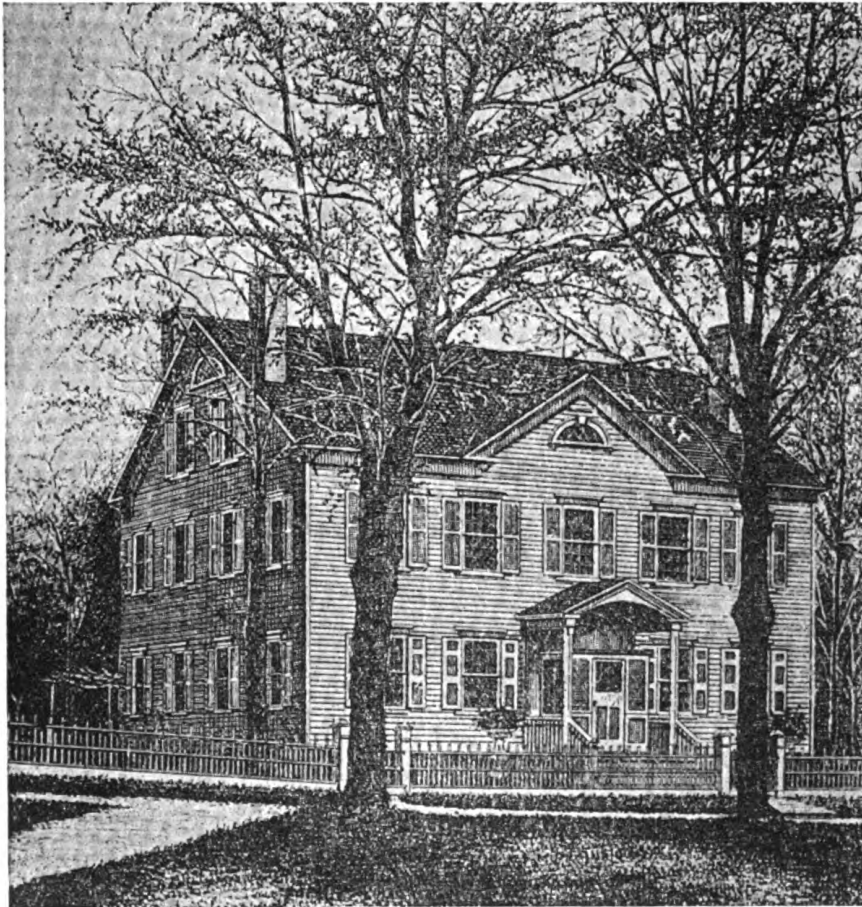
Another item of interest in reference to slaves in our town is the following record from a town meeting held August 30, 1798:

"Voted that this Meeting do recommend and Nominate Messrs. Benjamin Smith, Eliphalet Brush, and Nathan Dauchy as suitable Persons to be appointed assistant assessors to ascertain the value of Houses and Lands and to enumerate Slaves in said Town agreeable to a late Act of Congress. Voted that the Town Clerk forthwith transmit a Copy of the doings of this Meeting to William Heron, Esq., Commissioner appointed by Congress, with the request of this meeting that if only two of the Gentlemen may be appointed in this town, the two first nominated may receive the appointment as one of them lives in the first Society and the other in the Society of Ridgebury."

Whipstick District received its name from the whipping-post used in Colonial days. This whipping-post was located on the corner of Main Street and Branchville Road in front of the present residence of the Misses Stone.

Borrowing and lending went on in the early days as now, only the collateral in many instances was entirely different. An old document still held in the Sherwood family tells us that John Sherwood, son of Daniel, the miller, held a note against Theophilus Stebbins. The note was for "£40" and the security for its payment was a "feather bed, bolster, checker woven blanket, tea kittle, four puter platters, twelve puter plates, earthen punch

bowle, six china tea cups and saucers, five linen sheets, six pillows, six linen table cloths, all at y^e value of £20." Unfortunately the date of the note is unknown, as a piece bearing the date has been torn off. Theophilus Stebbins died March 10, 1777, so the note is over one hundred and fifty years old.



RESIDENCE OF JOSHUA I. KING,
later the home of J. Howard King. Erected 1801. Destroyed by fire in 1889.



RESIDENCE OF EDWARD L. BALLARD,
formerly the home of Colonel Philip Burr Bradley.

CHAPTER VI

THE OBLONG

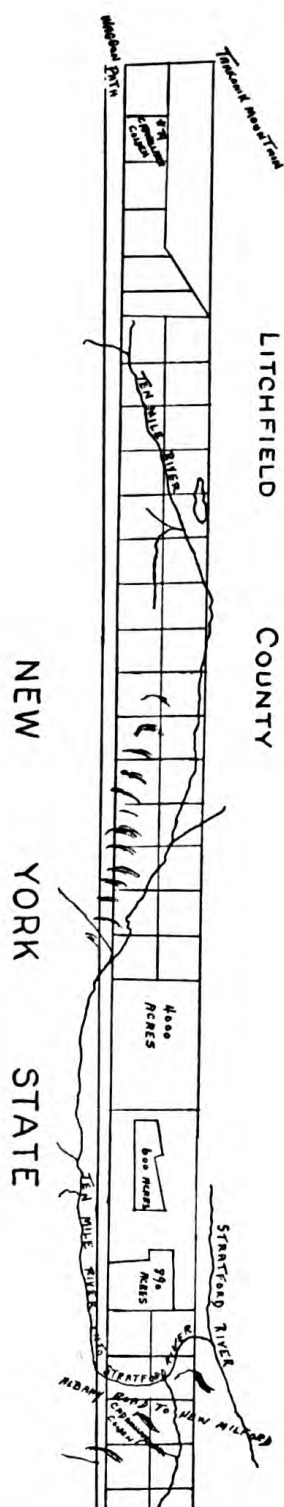
The boundary between the Dutch colony of New Amsterdam and the English colony of Connecticut was in the very earliest times a matter of contention and disagreement. The Dutch claimed all the lands West of the Connecticut River, but the English Colonists kept settling along the shore of the Sound until they were below Greenwich. An agreement was reached at Hartford on the 29th of September, 1654, and the boundary was fixed from the western part of Oyster Bay to the ocean, and on the main land it began at Greenwich Bay, and ran northerly twenty miles into the country. Ten years later, New Netherlands was taken from the Dutch, and came under the rule of the British, by whom it was thenceforth called New York.

In 1727 the inhabitants of Ridgefield and other towns along the New York State border were considerably disturbed over the continued altercation regarding the western boundary of the state. The trouble began when the boundary between the two states was established in 1664. The part that New York state demanded in exchange for Greenwich, Stamford and portions of other Connecticut towns was a section which from its shape was known as The Oblong. It consisted of nearly sixty-two thousand acres. In 1731 sixty-one thousand, four hundred and forty acres were surrendered to New York State. The Oblong, in that portion parallel to the Connecticut line, was one mile and three quarters and twenty rods wide.

On October 28th, 1764, delegates from Connecticut and commissioners from New York State met and came to the understanding that the western boundary of Connecticut should be twenty miles east of the Hudson River. It was represented at this meeting that Mamaroneck Creek

MASSACHUSETTS

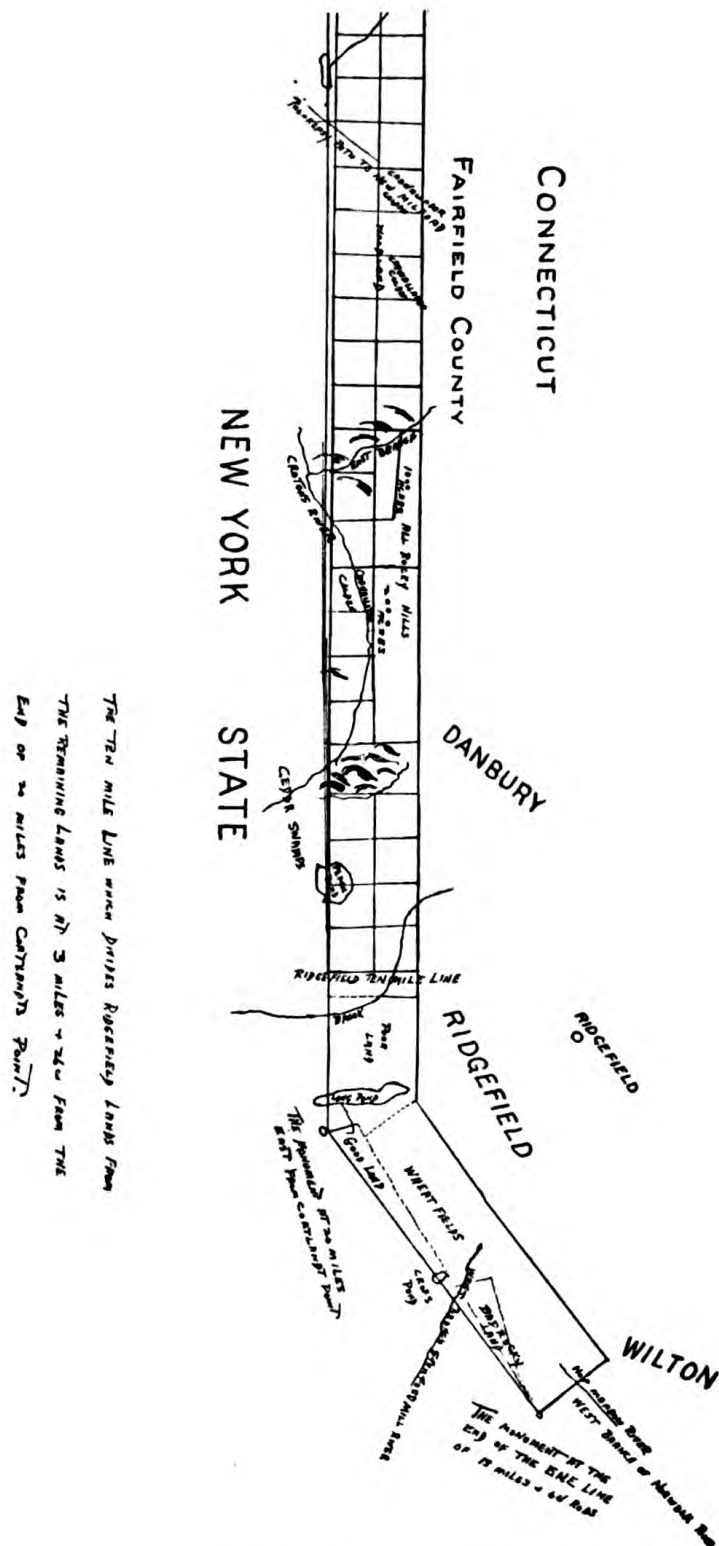
CONNECTICUT



REPRODUCTION OF THE MAP OF THE OBLONG
DONATED BY CHARLES C. COLEMAN - REPRODUCED TO THE BEST
OF THE BEST OF THE ORIGINAL

MAP OF THE OBLONG

From the Massachusetts Line to a point near Pawling, New York, along the
Towns of Salisbury, Sharon, Kent, and the upper part of Sherman.



MAP OF THE OBLONG
 From the upper end of Fairfield County along the Towns of Sherman,
 New Fairfield, Danbury, Ridgefield, Wilton to the New Canaan Line.

in New York State was twenty miles from the Hudson, whereas it is only ten. The line was run in a north-north-west direction so that it intersected the Hudson River at West Point. This of course was contrary to the intent of the delegates. In 1683 Governor Dongan of New York and his Council, and the Governor of Connecticut and Delegates met and drew up articles to the effect that the line should run as was originally intended, that is, twenty miles from the Hudson River.

But it was shown that this line would deprive Connecticut of several towns which it had developed. Discussion arose and in 1684 the matter was again taken up. In 1718 and 1719, and in April, 1725, the two commissions held meetings in Rye to attempt to settle the matter. On account of lack of funds the work was suspended. In 1731 it was again taken up and the survey was completed to the Massachusetts line. The Oblong was then set off to New York State. In May, 1855, Connecticut brought up the boundary dispute once more, claiming that the old stone bounds had been scattered and moved, and the ranges of marked trees had disappeared. In 1855 the line was gone over but not settled.

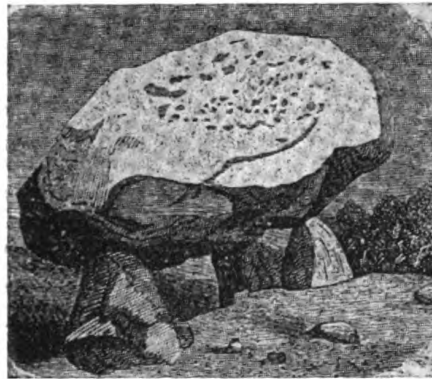
In 1859 the state of Connecticut appointed as Boundary Commissioners two distinguished men; Honorable Joseph R. Hawley, afterwards Governor and United States Senator from Connecticut, and the Honorable Philip S. Beebe. They began their services on September 9th, 1859, and were in Ridgefield from October twelfth to fifteenth. A matter of interest in connection with their stay in Ridgefield is their bill at the hotel and for other expenses. General Hawley's bill was \$3.64, and Mr. Beebe's, \$9.18. They were paid for their services at the rate of \$5.00 a day.

The final settlement was ratified by the legislatures of both states and confirmed by Congress during the session of 1880 to 1881. In April, 1860, the Legislature of

New York passed a resolution empowering a commission to erect suitable monuments along the line fixed by the survey of 1731.

In these discussions no difficulty was experienced in that section of the boundary line from the Ridgefield angle south. The mouth of the Byram River was settled upon as the southerly boundary point. Five towns would either have been thrown into New York State or seriously affected by following the original intention of the twenty mile line from the Hudson, so an equivalent tract, quantity for quantity, was given by Connecticut to New York State, and this has always been called The Oblong.

In this section taken from Ridgefield, the township lost the Waccabuc Lakes, Peach Lake containing four hundred acres, known as Lake Pehquennakonck by the early



BOULDER STONE, NORTH SALEM.
from an old cut.

settlers, and also the great natural curiosity in North Salem, the Boulder Stone, a very large granite rock supported on the points of five small limestone rocks. From measurements, this rock is estimated to weigh upwards of sixty tons. The rock is of blue granite and no other traces of this kind of granite are found any-

where in this section. Granite of this character is found in New Hampshire and Canada. It was deposited upon its present resting place by glacial action. With Niagara Falls, The Palisades on the Hudson, and Watkins Glen, this rock is classed as one of the first four natural curiosities of the State of New York.*

It is interesting to note that before the Oblong was set off to New York State, the western boundary of Ridge-

* The Quaker Meeting House near the head of Peach Lake is one of the old historic buildings in the Oblong. It was built about 1763, and meetings, largely attended, are annually held here.

field intersected Lake Waccabuc at its western end. This former section of our township is remarkably beautiful, commanding a rich view of meadows, wooded hillsides and distant mountains. The South Salem Presbyterian Church occupies a most prominent and suitable position. It is a fine building with an admirable setting, the entire neighborhood inspiring the sojourner with feelings of repose and serenity. The first Pastor was the Reverend Solomon Mead, who was installed May 19th, 1752, and had charge of the parish for forty-eight years until his death at the age of eighty-six in September, 1812. Directly across from the church is the little town house where in bygone days Horace Greeley, Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony delivered addresses. The boundary stone at the angle is upon a high point of the mountain, on the property of Jonathan Bulkley. It is about a mile from his residence.

While the discussion in regard to the Oblong was going on, and when it became apparent that Ridgefield would lose a considerable slice from its western edge, the inhabitants of the town took steps to annex to the Township the wedge-shaped piece of land above the northern border, a piece which as yet had not been set off to any township. This gusset of land extended north as far as the New Fairfield line, bounded on the east by Danbury, on the south by Ridgebury Parish and on the west by New York State. It is that section in which the hamlet of Mill Plain is located. The eastern line was a little over a quarter of a mile from the present Mill Plain Church. The first petition to the General Assembly was in 1727, four years before the Oblong was set off, and is as follows:

"At a General Assembly Holden at Hartford in His Majesties Colony of Connecticut in New England on the 11th Day of May, in the 13th year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord George of Great Britain & King Anoque Dom 1727. Upon the memorial of the proprietors, in-



PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, SOUTH SALEM.
Erected 1752.

habitants of Ridgfield, shewing to this Assembly that they are likely to suffer great loss, and damage, by reason of part of their townships being cut off by the dividing line between New York, and Connecticut governments, and praying that a small tract or gusset of country land lying northward of said Ridgfield, westward of Danbury, and eastward of said line where it shall be when run, may be granted to them as an equivalent for the loss and damage above said;

“ This Assembly do defer giving an answer thereto, till the said dividing line shall be ascertained, and in the mean while, do prohibit the taking of any part of those lands, on the account of any grants made by this Court to any person, whatsoever, without the special order of this Assembly; Whereupon, this Assembly do hereby strictly prohibit and forbid all surveyors, or other officers, whatsoever, from surveying and laying out any grant, or grants on any part of the said lands, without the special order of this Assembly, until the said line be ascertained as aforesaid.”

As stated, the dispute over the Oblong was satisfactorily settled in 1731, and a second petition then went to the General Assembly from the citizens of Ridgfield which reads:

“ *At a General Assembly Holden at Hartford on Thursday 13th day of May 1731* Upon the memorial of Joseph Keeler, Ebenezer Smith, Daniel Olmsted, and the rest of the proprietors of the common and undivided lands in the town of Ridgfield, setting forth to this Assembly, the great loss and damage they have sustained by reason of the dividend line, between the Province of New York, and the Colony of Connecticut coming so much farther eastward, than was expected, and thereby cutting off a considerable quantity of the land belonging to said town, thereupon petition this Assembly, that they would, in consideration of the loss, which they have sustained as aforesaid, grant unto them, a certain quantity of land, bounded south by the Colony line; Upon which, this Assembly grants unto the said Joseph Keeler, Ebenezer Smith, Daniel Olmsted and the rest of the proprietors of the common and undivided land in said Ridgfield, and do hereby grant and confirm

unto them said quantity of land, in that proportion, according to their present interest in the common and undivided lands in said town, except those grants that have been taken up in the limits aforesaid; and like wise grant that they take out a patent for the same, signed by the Governour and Secretary."

The patent was given the following month. It reads as follows:

"*Know all Men by these presents* that We y^e Governor and Company of his Majesties English Colony of Connecticut in New England, in General Court Assembled In pursuance and by Virtue of the Power granted unto us, by our late Sovereign Lord King Charles y^e Second of Blessed memory in and by His Majesties Letters Patent under the Great Seal of England, Bearing date of the 23rd day of April in the 14 year of His Reign, Have Given, Granted, and by these presents for us and our successors, do give, grant, ratify and confirm unto Joseph Keeler, Ebenezer Smith, Daniel Olmsted and the rest of the Proprietors of the common and undivided lands in the Town of Ridgefield, in that proportion, according to their present Interest in said common and undivided land in y^e Town aforesaid to them, and each of them, their heirs and assigns forever, and in particular all One Tract — peice Or Parcel of Land, Butted and Bounded as Followeth — That is to say,

"On the South by Ridgefield Township, On the East by Danbury, on the North by New-Fairfield, on the West by the Colony Line, together with all woods, TIMBER underwood, uplands, arable Lands, Meadows pastures, ponds, Waters, Rivers, Brooks, Islands, Fishings, Fowlings, Huntings, Mines, Minerals, Quarries, and precious Stones upon or within y^e said Tract Land as Butted and Bounded as is herein before exprest or Mentioned, Excepting all those Grants that have been Made and taken up within said Tract of Land and with the Rights, Members, Hereditaments, and appurtances, and y^e reversion and reversions, remainder and remainders, rights Royalties and privileges, immunities, and Franchises there unto belonging, shall forever hereafter be deemed, reputed, and accounted, a good, pure, absolute and indefeasible Estate of inheritances in Fee Simple, of and unto the said Joseph Keeler, Ebenezer

Smith, Daniel Olmsted and the rest of the Proprietors of the Common and undivided land in said Town of Ridgefield, in such proportion, according to their present interest in said Common and undivided Land and in said Town of Ridgfield, in such proportion, according to their present interest in said Common and undivided land to them, their heirs, and assigns forever. To have and to Hold, inherit and enjoy y^e said land and premises, Hereditaments, and appurtenances with the priviledges, immunities, and Franchise, herein mentioned as their interest and property forever, and to be to y^e only use, Benefitt, and Behoof of the said Joseph Keeler, Ebenezer Smith, Daniel Olmsted and the rest of the Proprietors of the common and undivided land in the Town of Ridgfield aforesaid, to them their heirs and assigns forever — To hold of His Majesty, His Heirs and successors according to the Tenour of his Majestie's Manor of East Greenwich, in the County of Kent, in the Kingdom of England, in free and common Soccage, and not in Capitee or Knight Service, Yealding and paying therefor, unto our Lord & King, his Heirs and Successors forever, Only the fifth part of all the Gold and Silver which from time to time, and at all times hereafter, shall be gotten, Or obtained in Lieu of all service, Duties and demands Whatsoever according to Charter. In Witness Whereof, we have caused the Seal of the said Colony to be hereunto affixed this first day of June A. D. 1731, and in the fourth year of y^e Reign of our Sovereign Lord George the Second King &c.

“Hez: Wyllys *Secretary* J. TALCOTT, Governor.”

June 1st 1731, Received and Entered upon the Records of the Colony of Connecticut, Lib 5 fol 248-9..

“Received to Record and Recorded this 8th day of June A D 1731

Per Me, Thomas Hawley, Register.”

“At a General Assembly Holden at Hartford in His Majesties English Colony of Connecticut in New England in America, on Thursday the 11th Day of May, Anno Regni Regis Georgii 2^d, Magnae Britanniae &c., 5^{to} Annoque Dom 1732.

"Whereas this Assembly in May last, granted unto Joseph Keeler, Ebenezer Smith, Daniel Olmsted, and the rest of the proprietors of Ridgefield in the county of Fairfield, a certain tract of land bounded south by said Ridgefield, East by Danbury, north by New Fairfield, west by the Colony Line, which tract of land this Assembly do now annex to the town of Ridgefield, and to be taken and accounted a part thereof."

This section of our township was a part of Ridgefield for one hundred and fifteen years, when the greater portion of it was given to Danbury by act of the General Assembly. When the Proprietors of the town of Ridgefield foresaw that the Legislature would grant their petition for the gusset of land north of Ridgebury Parish, they anticipated the action of the incoming legislature by holding a town meeting. At this Proprietors' Meeting which was held March 19, 1732, a committee was appointed on the part of Ridgefield to settle the boundary line between this town and Danbury. Full power was given this Committee to act with a Committee from Danbury for "setting the boundaries" between the two townships. The members of the Ridgefield Committee were Lieutenant Ebenezer Smith, Joseph Keeler, and Daniel Olmsted.

Among other disturbing factors that unsettled the life of those inhabitants living on the Oblong appears to be the question of their rights to have a seat in the Meeting House at Ridgefield, as the following record shows.

At a town meeting held by adjournment December 10th, 1750, among other matters "at y^e Meeting above said it was Voted that Peter Benedict and Lot Keeler shall have y^e priviledge of a seat in y^e Meeting House & be seated upon this condition, viz — that they the said Benedict & Keeler give in their Lists of their estates forthwith & So annually in a true & faithfull man-

ner according to y^e Laws & Customs in this Colony, & annually pay their proportion of taxes that shall be levied or Passed in y^e list either for buildings Meeting House or Repairing y^e present Meeting House & Supporting the Gospel amongue us, according to y^e Laws & Method in this Colony and to Enjoy y^e Priviledge above said So Long as they perform as above said & No Longer, & Likewise any others Living on y^e Oblong or elsewhere shall have y^e same priviledge with y^e said Benedict & Keeler upon Condition they perform as above said & No Longer.


Test. Stephen Smith Register."

New Arrangement... Commencing on Monday, August 4th, 1845.

FOR

RIDGEFIELD, WILTON & NORWALK.

Fare through \$1.00



The Old Line of Stages will leave Ridgebury every

MONDAY, THURSDAY & SATURDAY

AT HALF-PAST TWO O'CLK. A.M.,

And **RIDGEFIELD** at **FOUR** o'clock, passing through **WILTON** and arriving in **NORWALK** in time for Passengers to take the Steamboat for New-York.

Returning, leave Norwalk on the same days, on the arrival of the boat from New-York.

AUGUST, 1845. **D. HUNT, Proprietor.**

POSTER OF STAGE COACH ROUTE
operated by David Hunt of Ridgebury.

CHAPTER VII

HIGHWAYS AND STAGE COACH ROUTES

The matter of highways was one of the questions that was given much attention by the proprietors in the very first years of the settlement of Ridgefield. The records of the early town meetings show that roads were laid out, in and around the village traversing every section of the township, conclusive evidence that the opening of highways was uppermost in the minds of the pioneers. At a town meeting held in Ridgefield April 1st, 1714, we find the following record: "This Town Meeting by a major vote do make choice of Ebenezer Smith and James Benedict for their Committee to rectifie highways, where they shall be found needful to be rectified to take from mens land Land where there is need, and to make it up to them again, as well as they can to suit them; recorded November y^e 6th 1719 per me.

Thomas Hawley,* Register."

From the descriptions given, it appears almost impossible today to fix definitely the location of some of these roads. As an illustration, one of the first highways laid out is recorded under the date of October 19, 1719. At that time Samuel Saint John and Daniel Olmsted, selectmen, "laid out a highway through y^e west point of James Northrup's homestead, beginning as follows: viz; at a Black Oak Tree standing about two rodods Westward of the Northwest Corner of his house, and running a direct strait line from Thence to y^e Southwest Corner of y^e s^d homestead Taking off y^e Land westerly within said Lott, for y^e publick use and benefitt of y^e Town forever, it being

* The name Hawley is generally spelled upon the records *Hauley*, but the author has followed, in most instances, the spelling as adopted by the family.

in quantity about three roods of ground be it more or less, performed by us.

Samuel Saint John }
Daniel Olmsted } Selectmen."

However, there were many roads laid out in those early days whose bounds and terminations are plainly recognized at the present time. In the years 1721 and 1722 over twenty-five roads were laid out, among them our Main Street. At a Town Meeting held December 26th, 1721, "The highways & Rhodes in and about the town were laid out as followeth; viz: Beginning with y^e Town Street and from the North Side of Benjamin Stebbins home lott, down to the South Side of Mr. Hawley's home lott, or to y^e Meeting House yard is eight rodds in weadth, East and West exact measure." There can be only one interpretation of this vote, that is, that our Main Street, from the property of Miss Mary Olcott on the north to a point near the corner of the Branchville Road on the south, was laid out one hundred and thirty-two feet wide.

Then comes a description of the Meeting house Yard or Church Yard as it is also called. Upon this section of our highway stood the Congregational Church until it was abandoned in 1888. Here were held General Trainings by the militia in the Colonial days. This plot of ground was laid out as follows: "From y^e south of Mr. Hawley's home lott, beginning at y^e meeting house yard and from Henry Whitne's* Northwest corner to Matthew Saint John's Southeast Corner of his Home Lott is sixteen rodds, and from said Whitne's North Corner to his South Corner is twenty rodds, and from said South Corner, west across the street to Joseph Keeler's South East Corner is sixteen rodds and from said Corner to Joseph Keeler's

Recorded Nov. 25, 1712.

* Thomas Canfield sold to Henry Whitne home lott, Bounded south by Jonathan Rockwell, North by y^e Home lott being y^e Proprietors' reserve, West by y^e Town Street and east by common land.

Northeast corner standing in Saint Johns line is twenty rods." Bringing the above bounds down to the present time, we find that the Church Yard was laid out twenty rods from the Branchville Corner along the front or westerly line of the home lots of the Misses Annie and Ellen Stone and Albert H. Storer.

Sixteen rods across the street, the line ran north and south for twenty rods, along the easterly line of the home lots of Sanford H. E. Freund and Mrs. Johnston L. de Peyster.

Catoonah Street was laid out the same day, the bounds being five and a half rods wide on the Main Street or easterly end, and "at y^e west end six rods wide." Benjamin Burt is mentioned as living on the Methodist Church corner and David Scott on the opposite corner.

The present Depot Hill is described as "a road between the home lotts of Thomas Smith and Ebenezer Smith," Thomas living on the south corner where now lives Richard W. Osborn, and Ebenezer on the library corner. This road was laid out "five rods and a half and four feet on the Town Street and at y^e east end five rods and a half, and from hence to Joseph Keeler's six acre division and down to the Great Swamp four rods wide."

West Lane was laid out seven and a half rods wide on the Main Street between the home lots of James Benedict on the north corner, and Samuel Smith on the south, and fourteen rods at "y^e west corner of Smith's home lot."

In 1722, many roads were laid out, the majority apparently being in the southern end of the town, in Flat Rock, Whipstick and West Lane Districts. The highway toward "Bedford Rhode as far as West Mountain" was laid out in this year.

The town of Norwalk was evidently anxious to have some better communication with Ridgefield, for we find the following in the Norwalk records: "On December 16, 1713 the citizens of the Town of Norwalk by a major

vote made choice of Capt. Joseph Platt, Capt. John Raymond, and Ensign James Stewart, for their committee to make a settlement of a highway or road to Ridgfield, if the committee of Ridgfield can agree; and doth fully empower said committee to make restitution to such persons that said highway may take land from within the limits of Norwalk Township." December 20, 1723, at a town meeting at Ridgefield, it was voted "that y^e Rhode to Norwalk pass over y^e bald hill, where it was laid out by y^e jury." Again the question of the road to Norwalk came up in the following year, as on November 9th, 1724, it was voted "that the road of Norwalk pass over Bald Hill*, where it was laid out by y^e jury." At this meeting, Samuel Keeler† was warned to remove his fence accordingly.

On April 15th, 1771, "the town voted £3 10s 1d to the Sherwoods in Ridgebury Parish as a Reward to them for their trouble and expense respecting a road in that parish."

In 1796, the Sugar Hollow Road was surveyed. It appears that many of the inhabitants of Danbury who suffered through the depredations of the British Troops in the raid upon that town by General Tryon, asked for some compensation for their losses. A survey was made of the property alleged to have been damaged, and the same body of surveyors employed for this purpose also laid out the road through Sugar Hollow. Previous to the building of the road through the hollow, the road to Danbury passed over Salt Pond and Moses Mountain. There was a road to Danbury from Ridgefield through Limestone and Redding, and another to Ridgebury, thence across through Miry Brook. The Sugar Hollow Road was built about 1812 by Sturges Selleck, who lived and owned the farm now known as Maplewood. For many years,

* Bald Hill is the highest point of land between Maine and Florida in such close proximity to the coast.

† Samuel Keeler moved from Ridgefield to Wilton, then in the township of Norwalk. He settled in the Bald Hill section of the town. Wilton was incorporated as a town in May, 1802. It has an area of 17,602 acres.

a toll gate was operated upon this turnpike. It stood across a narrow part of the turnpike near Bradley's Pond.

One of the most needed roads laid out in town at this time was the *new* road to Branchville Station. The old road runs over Branchville Hill, through the estate of the late Mrs. Mary Hearn Greims. It was very hilly and a hard road for the stage coach to travel. At a Town Meeting held May 23rd, 1851, a committee consisting of Jacob Haviland, Edward Williams, Philip Northrop, Lewis Sherwood and David Hunt were appointed to "look out for a way for a road from Ridgefield to some convenient point the most easy of access to the contemplated Norwalk and Danbury Railroad." On the 30th of June following, it was voted that this road be laid out from David C. Keeler's house, now the Biddle homestead on Branchville Road, to the station at Branchville. Subscriptions had been pledged by Dr. Nehemiah Perry and others to the amount of sixteen hundred dollars towards defraying the expenses of purchasing a right of way, fencing and constructing said road to Branchville. The station at Branchville for years was called Ridgefield Station.

One important piece of highway constructed in recent years is the cut-off in Farmingville at the easterly end of Great Swamp, which was built in the fall of 1913.

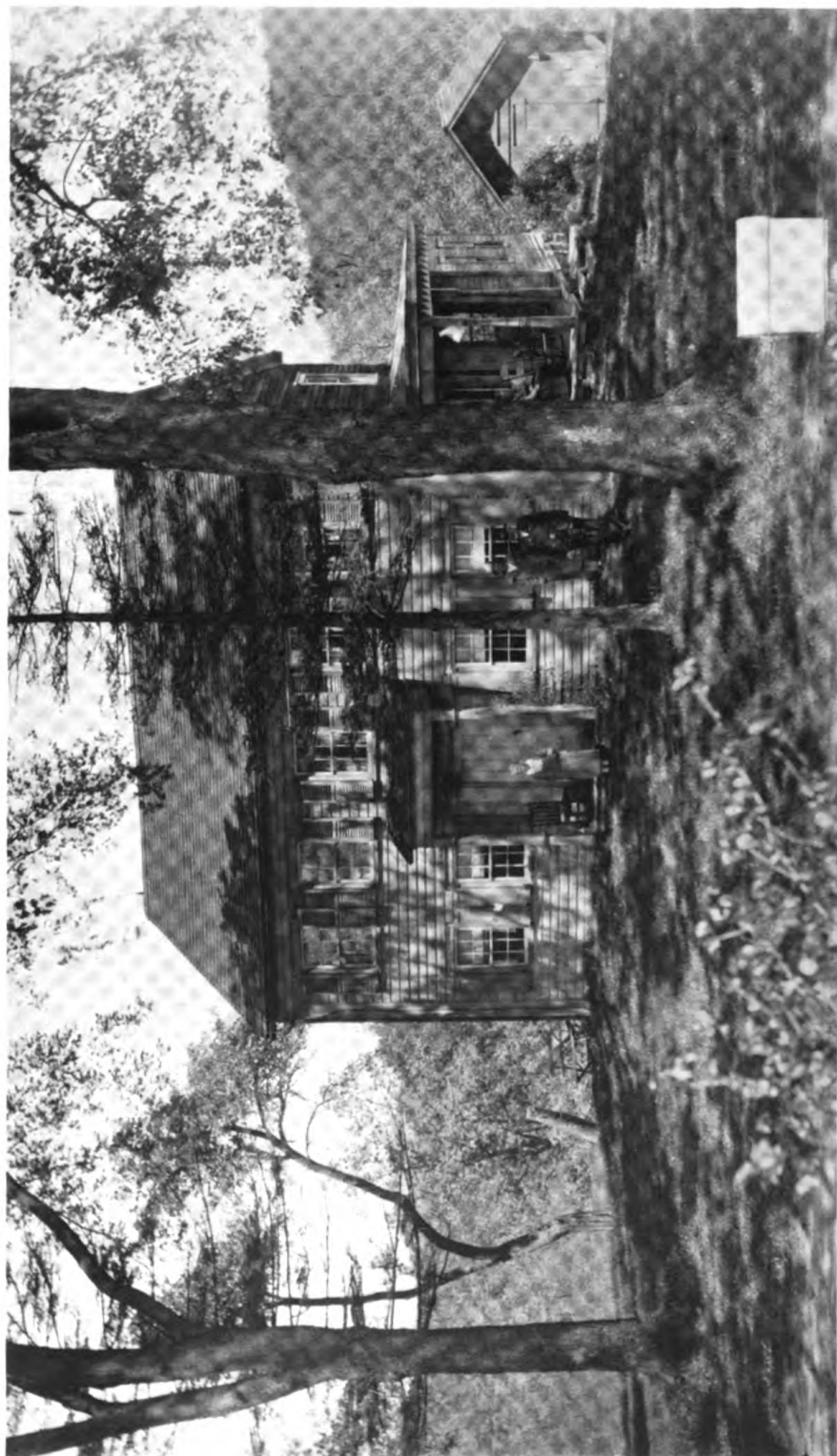
At a town meeting held December 1st, 1800, it was voted that work in payment of a Highway Tax shall be paid for as follows: that each person who shall labor on the road shall receive seventy-five cents per Day, and for a man and team one dollar and fifty cents for payments towards taxes, provided the work was done before July 1st. If the work was done after July 1st, the pay for a man was fifty cents a day, and for a man and team one dollar.

The stage line from New York to Hartford and Boston ran through Ridgefield. At one time, the route taken out of Ridgefield north, turned into the old lane across

Orange Ridge above the Cornen place, thence through Farmingville and Limestone by Taylor's Corners, over Pickett's Ridge, coming out at West Redding. The Danbury Republican Journal published in 1804 gives the following schedule of fares together with the time of arrival and departure of the stages at the terminals. The mail stage left Hartford and New York every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday morning at four o'clock. It arrived in Danbury about seven o'clock the same evening. The journey was continued from Danbury on Monday, Wednesday and Friday at four o'clock in the morning. The passengers arrived in Hartford and New York at seven o'clock. The fare from Ridgefield to Danbury was fifty-five cents, and from Ridgefield to Hartford, four dollars, and from Ridgefield to New York, two dollars and ninety cents. This route passed through New Milford and Litchfield on the journey to Hartford, and through Bedford and White Plains on the way to New York. Fourteen pounds of baggage was allowed free with each passenger.

In 1824, the first steamboat line from New York City to Norwalk was established. This boat was named the John Marshall. The fare was one dollar, but three years later Cornelius Vanderbilt put on a boat in opposition, and the fare was reduced to one shilling. The Commodore's boat was called the Nimrod.

In 1836, David Hunt of Ridgebury established a stage line from that section of our town to Norwalk. The picture on the opposite page is taken from a poster advertising this route. The stage started from the Hunt homestead, built in 1782 by Captain Henry Whitney, whose daughter Clarissa married David Hunt. As will be noted in the poster, the stage left Ridgebury at *two thirty o'clock in the morning*. George V. R. Hunt, the son of the proprietor, attended to getting the passengers to the scene of the departure by driving to Mill Plain, Miry Brook, Danbury, or to any place wherefrom a call came. He would pick up



RESIDENCE OF CAPTAIN HENRY WHITNEY, RIDGEBURY.
*built in 1782, now the home of Samuel A. Coe.
Mr. Coe in his Grand Army uniform in foreground.*

the passengers the day before and carry them to the Hunt homestead in Ridgebury where they would spend the night. Next morning at two o'clock they would get up and after a good breakfast be ready for the start at half past two. Four horses were used. These horses were left in Norwalk to rest up at the end of the journey and two fresh pairs were used on the return trip in the afternoon. This trip landed the traveler in Ridgefield about ten:thirty at night, and in Ridgebury at midnight. The stage used on this route was made in Redding by the Sanfords.

The Hunt homestead is now the residence of our respected townsman, Samuel A. Coe, a veteran of the Civil War. A record of his service is given in that part of this volume relating to the Civil War. Mr. Coe has been prominently identified with the civic life of Ridgefield, holding many positions of responsibility and trust.

David Hunt, who in his early life was a farmer, also a mason, ran mail routes from Danbury to Stamford, and from Ridgefield to Peekskill, before he operated the stage line to Norwalk. The United States government paid him one hundred dollars a year for his services in carrying the mail to Stamford. The mail was carried on horseback once a week.

George V. R. Hunt often drove the stage to Norwalk, and instead of waiting there for the return trip, would often spend the intervening time by going on the boat to New York. While in New York on one such occasion, he met a man who asked him if he could find seamstresses in Ridgefield to sew shirts. He developed a large business in Ridgefield and the neighboring towns in the making of shirts. The shirts were cut out in New York, and Mr. Hunt took them to Ridgebury and from there he ran routes through Ridgefield, Redding, Danbury, Bethel and other towns, leaving the shirts with various housewives and their daughters to be sewed. He went north in his distribution as far as Putnam County. In 1736 Mr. Hunt began with a half

dozen shirts, but his business increased so that after a time he employed over a thousand sewers. He continued this business until after the close of the Civil War.

In 1847, The New York and New Haven railroad was ready for traffic. In 1852 the Danbury and Norwalk railroad was opened, and stages ran from Ridgefield to Branchville until 1870, when the Ridgefield Branch was built.

Henry Whitlock drove the stage to Branchville station and carried the mail. About 1838, as a boy at the age of twelve, he drove a stage with four horses from Danbury to Norwalk and return — a remarkable feat. He collected the fares and transacted all the business on the daily trips. After the Ridgefield branch was built, the old Whitlock stage coach was used in carrying passengers to and from the station at Ridgefield, and Mr. Whitlock also occasionally used the stage to take parties to New York with a four in hand. For four or five years, Mr. Whitlock also drove for Barnum and Bailey's Circus. One of his feats particularly mentioned is that he turned around *sixteen pairs* of horses before a circus wagon on Main Street, Danbury. An incident related of Mr. Whitlock in Ridgefield is of a party who wanted to drive to Danbury but insisted upon having eight white horses before the coach. Mr. Whitlock collected eight white horses which had never been hitched together before, and drove them to Danbury and back without a mishap. He was very accomplished in the handling of a whip, and could crack a fly off a horse's ear with a four in hand whip. His son, Morris B. Whitlock, who was also a noted horseman, succeeded to the business of his father.

In traveling throughout the township of Ridgefield, many old and abandoned roads may be seen winding up the steep hillsides. Our forefathers did not seem to realize that in many instances it was no farther to go around a hill than to go over it.

CHAPTER VIII

TOWN MEETINGS AND TOWN AFFAIRS

Much of New England's fascinating history is made in its famous town meetings. It would take us beyond the scope of this work to record all the Ridgefield town meetings, or even give a few of them completely. Many of the incidents that occurred in town meetings have been treated in other chapters. There are, however, matters comparatively unimportant that may be of interest to the reader.

The Sign Post in Ridgefield has quite a history. At a town meeting held January 9th, 1726/27 the townsmen did "Order that y^e White Oak Tree Standing near Henry Whitne's be recorded their Sign Post." This tree, the first sign post in the town, stood near the corner of Main Street and Branchville Road. While this old *oak* tree was the legal sign post of the town, yet many of the citizens in the outlying districts evidently were dissatisfied with simply one place for posting legal notices. At a town meeting held December 18th, 1738, the town voted "that for y^e future or till they order otherwise that y^e setting up in writing in certain places appointed by y^e Town shall be a sufficient warning for all Town Meetings, y^e writing to be set up at least five days before said meetings, and y^e place approved by y^e Town are viz: a tree at or near Matthew Benedict's, also a tree near Jabez Rockwell's, another on a tree near Sergt. Daniel Sherwood's and one near Justice Benedict's, another at Joseph Keeler's at Mam-anusqua." On December 11th, 1761, the town ordered "Y^e selectmen to set up a sign-post within y^e compass of y^e Meeting house yard & the same there to Continue During y^e Town's pleasure." On December 22nd, 1788, it

was voted " that the Oak Tree near Thomas Smith's Dwelling, be and serve as a place to set up warnings instead of the old Chestnut." This Oak tree stood near the present southeast corner of Main Street and Depot Hill. Where the " old Chestnut " stood is not recorded. The public sign post remained in the vicinity of the old church until October, 1853, when the town voted " that the Selectmen be and they are hereby directed to remove the Public Sign Post from the place where it now stands (immediately south of the Congregational Meeting House) within Ten feet of the Town House within ten days from date." The location of this sign post may be seen in the illustration of the Town House built in 1876. After the fire in 1895, the sign post was changed to the northwest corner of the lot in front of the present Town Hall. October 6th, 1913, it was voted to put the sign post at the entrance to the present Town Hall.

By vote of the town in recent years, sign boards have been placed upon the various school houses of the town.

The question of legal weights and measures came up in 1744, for we find that at a Town Meeting held August 13th, 1744, "At y^e same meeting y^e Town by a major vote Do order and impower y^e Selectment to procure good & Lawfull weights in y^e Town, that, so other weights in y^e Town may be proved and regulated thereby."

Another interesting item tells us that at a town meeting held December 19th, 1752, " upon a Request of Burrell Betts & Joseph Betts of Norwalk the privilege of setting up a Wind-mill in y^e Town of Ridgfield that y^e Town of Ridgfield by a universal vote manifested their willingness that the said Burrell Betts & Joseph Betts try the Experiment of setting up a Building and Windmill in the Town of Ridgfield."



TOWN HALL, ERECTED 1876. DESTROYED BY FIRE, 1895.
*A portion of the Masonic Hall is on the right. In the foreground is the
old sign-post.*

Various times in the early history of the town, it was voted "To sell the Laws of the United States & this State belonging to this Town, either at private or public Vendue." It is unfortunate that these books were not kept by the town.

At a town meeting held in Ridgefield April 15th, 1771, Timothy Keeler was elected moderator. Among other things, this meeting took into consideration the application to the General Assembly "to be convened in Hartford May next in conjunction with y^e Towns of Danbury, Newtown, New Fairfield, Redding and New Milford, that a New County may be made in this Colony, and that Danbury may be made a County Town, the County to Consist of y^e above towns (provided the Motion be pursued at y^e Assembly without any Expense to this Town). The motion was Consented to & approved by a unanimous vote." On April 13th, 1772, the town again appointed a committee together with the town of Danbury in regard to a memorial to the "General Assembly to be held in Hartford on May next that the towns of Danbury, Newtown, Ridgefield, Redding and New Fairfield may be made a distinct county and Danbury a county seat." This memorial differs but little from the former, except that New Milford is omitted from the list of towns. The Legislature did not approve of these application and Ridgefield still remains in Fairfield County.

At a town meeting held on the 8th of March, 1787, the question before the Meeting was "whether they are willing the Parish of Ridgebury should be incorporated into a Distinct Town." "Voted unanimously that the Town will not make any opposition to the Parish of Ridgebury lying part in this Town and part in the Township of Danbury being Incorporated into a Distinct Town, and they

are Willing their Memorial should be Granted." At another meeting held in 1792 it was voted "that this Meeting is willing the Parish of Ridgebury should meet with the Town as usual for the purpose of *choosing* Representatives to the General Assembly of this State, if this Assembly should Incorporate said Parish into a Town, with all other Town privileges, as this & other Towns in this State enjoys in common, except Representation to said General Assembly."

A town meeting was held November 12th, 1787, which reads as follows: "At a Town Meeting held Nov. 12, 1787, for the purpose of choosing Delegates in pursuance of Resolve and Recommendation to the General Assembly of the State of Connecticut for the purpose of choosing Delegates to meet at Hartford on the first Thursday of January next for the purpose of adopting or rejecting the Constitution composed by the Convention and Recommended by the Congress of the United States, Col. Philip Burr Bradley and Capt. Nathan Dauchy were chosen Delegates by Ballot. It was voted unanimously that this meeting approve the Constitution made by said Convention and recommended by the Congress, and the Delegates are Instructed to declare the Voice of the people at this meeting at their meeting aforesaid at Hartford."

There was evidently some disagreement over the line between Norwalk and Ridgefield, this line being the present north bound of Wilton. At a town meeting held December 3rd, 1798, it was voted "that Joshua King, Esq., be Agent to procure the Testimony of some Aged Gentlemen, to perpetuate the remembrance of the Bounds between Ridgefield and Norwalk Towns."

A special town meeting was held in Ridgefield on January 30th, 1837, to receive from the state a deposit

of the portion of the surplus funds belonging to the United States, which funds were distributed among the various states according to the last census by an act of Congress June 23rd, 1836. This fund is known to the present day as the Town Deposit Fund. Nathan Smith was the first treasurer of this fund. Thaddeus Keeler, 2nd, Elias Birchard and William Sherwood, Esq., were appointed at this meeting the managing agents of said town deposit fund. It was voted that one-half of the interest or income from the Deposit Fund shall be used for town expenses and that half shall be paid annually to the treasurers of the First Society and the Ridgebury Society in proportion to the enumeration of the children. The amount of the fund given to Ridgefield was \$5,919.24.

In the early days the boundaries between the townships were stone-piles and marks on trees. In those days the re-marking of the lines and restoring the bounds was a matter of importance and every few years the selectmen of the town appointed perambulators to go over these boundaries. On April 10, 1733, the selectmen of the town of Norwalk and Ridgefield appointed perambulators to meet at the northeast corner of the town of Norwalk, being the southeast corner of Ridgefield, which was a large heap of stones. From there they perambulated westerly to the New York state line. The perambulators from Norwalk were Matthew Gregory and Thomas Benedict, and from Ridgefield Joseph Keeler, Samuel Smith and Nathan Saint John. In 1744 Thomas Hyatt, James Benedict and Nathan Saint John from Ridgefield and Abraham Wildman, Jr. and Timothy Stevens from Danbury perambulated the line between the towns of Danbury and Ridgefield, re-marking the trees and repairing the monuments.

November 18, 1828, Ebenezer Hawley and Amos Smith, selectmen for Ridgefield, and Gershom Sherwood

and Jared Olmstead, selectmen for Redding, reported that the line between Redding and Ridgefield had been perambulated. Sixteen monuments are mentioned as marking this line. On the 26th day of November, 1836, perambulators from the town of Redding and Ridgefield met at the southeast corner of Ridgefield to go over the boundary line. David Scott, Harvey Smith and Jared Nash were the perambulators from Ridgefield, and Edward Couch and John Edmonds from Redding.

CHAPTER IX

THE FRENCH AND INDIAN WAR

That Ridgefield was called upon to take part in the Colonial Wars is evident from the following record of a Town Meeting held in Ridgefield September 20th, 1748, when "it was voted that the Powder and Lead that was taken up by y^e Soldiers that went from us to guard the upper towns should y^e present year be paid in a Town way, amounting to the sum of Six Pounds old Tenor." These soldiers were evidently called to an Indian alarm along the northern tier of towns, for at various times from 1724 until the French and Indian War, these alarms were sent out and the inhabitants in the lower portion of the state responded to the call. It is unfortunate that the names of these men are unknown, for the record ends with this announcement, simply giving the vote of the town meeting.

Ridgefield sent several men to the French and Indian War beginning 1755. Captain Perez Fitch of Stamford commanded a company which was organized for the "Alarm for Relief of Fort William Henry and parts adjacent." August seventh to twenty-third, 1757, was the duration of time that this company was in service. The roster of the company says that among those who rode horses were twenty-two men from Ridgefield. From a perusal of the list, it appears quite impossible to sift out the entire twenty-two from Ridgefield.

The most distinguished citizen that Ridgefield contributed to this war was the Reverend Jonathan Ingersoll, then pastor of the Congregational Church, who went to the front serving as chaplain in the campaign around Lake Champlain under Colonel David Wooster, who afterward became a major-general in the Revolutionary War, and

was shot at the Battle of Ridgefield. Reverend Mr. Ingersoll served with the Fourth Regiment from March 27th, 1758, to October 8th, 1758, and then in the same capacity under Colonel Wooster in the Third Regiment until March, 1759. Mr. Goodrich tells us that he was much respected in the army, and exerted an excellent influence on the soldiers. At this place, it is deemed fitting to record a letter which he sent to his brother Jared Ingersoll, at New Haven, the day before his departure from Ridgefield for the front:

“ Ridgefield, June 9th, 1758.

Dear Brother,

Yours from Hartford, the 1st instant, same safe to hand by Mr. Olmsted,* for which I am heartily obliged to you. I remarked in particular, your observing something of the heaviness of my countenance at parting with you, at New Haven — upon which I would observe that this bidding farewell is a difficult thing, and tends greatly to move the passions. This sin being a natural infirmity, you will easily overlook. Blessed be God, I am neither disheartened or elevated, but enjoy a good temper of mind, and can, I think, put my life in the hands of God and go forth freely and cheerfully, in so important though dangerous an enterprise.

I have this day received a line from Colonel Wooster, by which I am informed that I must be at Norwalk tomorrow in order to embark for Albany.

I am ready, and rejoice at the news. He also informs me that you are appointed agent, and have accepted, at which I greatly rejoice, and hope your courage will hold out, and desire that you will be made a blessing to your country and government in this important undertaking. The office is very honorable, and I hope will be profitable to you and the government. By no means refuse, but look upon it as a favor of Providence. To love God with all our heart and our neighbor as ourselves, is the great gospel command. And to be impressed, in such an important affair, must be looked upon as a favor from Heaven; for the voice of the people (to judge rationally) is the voice of God, when they look to Him for his influence and direction.

*Probably Samuel Olmsted, who was a representative in the General Assembly from Ridgefield at this time.

Your family need you and desire you, and so does mine me; but private matters must submit to the public good. Sister, I hope, will acquiesce — from a view of your usefulness, though it be a piece of great self-denial. I could wish you had had the small-pox — a terror to the world, and perhaps it would be best to go to Doctor Munson on Long Island, and inoculate — and was I not going abroad as I am, I would go and be with you. With respect to cautions and advice you give, I accept them well, and would give the same to you. And so, my brother, go in the fear of God — be true to your trust, and farewell. Whether we see each other in this life or not, let us labor to meet in glory.

I remain your affectionate brother,
Jonathan Ingersoll.*

*The Ingersoll family have figured prominently in the political and social life of Connecticut and Pennsylvania. Jared Ingersoll, Sr., to whom the above letter was addressed, was born in Milford, Connecticut, in 1722. Upon the passage of the Stamp Act in 1765, he was appointed Stamp Agent in Connecticut, and upon the advice of Benjamin Franklin, a friend of the family, he accepted the position. He was subjected to the same personal abuse and insults from which all stamp agents suffered. He held the position for some time but was finally forced to resign. In 1770, he was appointed admiralty judge. In 1776, Mr. Ingersoll published a pamphlet entitled "The Stamp Act." During the Revolution, he was an ardent Tory. His home in New Haven was located in the present center of the city. It occupied an entire square bounded by the present streets, College, Chapel, Temple and George, the residence being situated in the center of the tract. Mr. Ingersoll died at New Haven, in 1781.

His son, Jared Ingersoll, held a very distinguished position in the political world. He was born in New Haven in 1749, graduated from Yale College in 1766, and completed his education abroad, going to London, where he entered the Middle Temple, passing five years in the study of law. Mr. Ingersoll was in London at the outbreak of the Revolutionary War, and notwithstanding the firm position taken by his father toward the crown of England, he fervently and actively sympathized with the cause of the colonies. From London, he went to Paris, where he made the acquaintance of Benjamin Franklin. Returning to the United States, he made his home in Philadelphia, where he continued to reside until his death. Mr. Ingersoll took a prominent part in the affairs of the colony and gained a noteworthy position as an able lawyer. Alexander Hamilton, also a strong Federalist, was one of his closest friends. In 1787, he was chosen as one of the representatives of Pennsylvania to the convention which framed the Constitution of the United States, and is a signer of that famous document. He was attorney-general of Pennsylvania for two terms, also United States District attorney. In 1812, Jared Ingersoll was Vice-Presidential candidate of the United States on the Federal ticket, with DeWitt Clinton, the nominee for President. Mr. Ingersoll died in Philadelphia, October 21st, 1822.

P.S. We are all well. Send our compliments, particularly our love to Dorcas, and tell her to live in the fear of God."

The partial list of those serving in the French and Indian War from our town is given below. From the meagre records, entirely lacking in detail, it is impossible to obtain a complete list:

Gabriel Bennett	Captain Perez Fitch Company
Vivus Dauchy	Born in Ridgefield October 7th, 1738. Family tradition tells us that he died in this war.
Stephen Dikeman	enlisted March 23rd, 1762, Fifth Company, Captain Hobby, Second Regiment, Colonel Nathan Whitney. It is reported he did not join his regiment.
George Follet, Serjeant	Captain Perez Fitch Company
Hezekiah Gilbert	Captain Perez Fitch Company
Edward Hamilton	Colonel Whiting's Regiment
Ebenezer Hawley	Captain Perez Fitch Company
John Hawley, Jr.	Captain Perez Fitch Company
Nathan Hawley, Jr.	Captain Perez Fitch Company
Nathan Hoyt	Captain Perez Fitch Company
Rev. Jonathan Ingersoll	Chaplain of the Fourth Regiment, also the Third Regiment under Colonel David Wooster.
Eliphaz Nickerson	enlisted March 31st, 1758, First Company, Fourth Regiment, Colonel and Captain David Wooster.
Jeremiah Osburn	Captain Perez Fitch Company
James Resseguie	enlisted April 13th, 1761, Captain Thomas Hobby's Company
Silvenus Seely	enlisted April 4th, 1758, First Company, Fourth Regiment, Colonel and Captain David Wooster

Nathan Smith
Joseph Stebbins
James Tonge

Captain Perez Fitch Company
Captain Perez Fitch Company
Captain Perez Fitch Company

CHAPTER X

REVOLUTIONARY PERIOD

Written in detail, the part taken by Ridgefield in the Revolutionary War would fill a volume in itself. Dignity and importance is given Ridgefield, not only on account of the valor and patriotism of its inhabitants, but because of the fact that an important battle of the Revolution was fought here. From one end of the township to the other, from Ridgebury to West Lane and Flat Rock, the crack of the American rifle and the reply of the British musket echoed through the hills, as the British Army under Tryon retreated to their boats on Long Island Sound.

In January, 1775, the people of the town were called into town meeting to act upon certain resolutions adopted by the Continental Congress. It is difficult to understand in these days why Ridgefield took the stand that it did, and voted to remain loyal to King George the Third. Whether the meeting was attended by a few of our inhabitants, and just what interests dominated its course, must remain a matter of conjecture. Evidently the question of taxation without representation had not reached the boiling point in Ridgefield, but it is disappointing to feel that our town was not one of the first to take strong and antagonistic steps against this doctrine. The following is from the town records:

"First, Whereas application hath been made to the Select Men of the Town of Ridgefield in Connecticut Colony by several of the inhabitants of s^d Town, to call a special Town Meeting in order to take into consideration the Resolution Entered into by the Late Continental Congress; and the Inhabitants being accordingly met the 30th day of January A. D., 1775, Mr. Nathan Olmsted was

chosen Moderator. The Meeting then proceeded to take into Consideration the said Resolutions, and after mature Deliberation in said meeting the question was put, Whether this Town will adopt and Conform to the Resolves contained in y^e association of the Continental Congress or not. Resolved in the Negative. 9 Desent.

"*Second*, Resolved N.C.D.* That we do acknowledge his most Sacred Majesty King George the 3rd to be our rightfull Sovereign and do publickly avow our allegiance to him & his Lawfull successors, And that we will do to the utmost of our power, Support his throne & Dignity against Every Combination in the Universe.

"*Third*, Resolved N.C.D. That we do acknowledge that the three branches of y^e Legislation (to wit) the King, the House of Lords and the House of Commons Convening and acting together have a constitutional Right of Government over the whole and Every part of the British Empire.

"*Fourth*, Resolved N.C.D., that the Governor, Council, and Representatives of this Colony being Indulged with and having and Established Right of Legislation (tho' restricted) in and over this Colony, We do hereby acknowledge & avow their Right of Government and Legislation in and over this Colony, And are confident that they are the Rightfull & Constitutional Rulers, Directors and Guardians of our persons, properties Rights Liberties and privileges, and We desire no other political Guides or Guardians than Said Assembly and the Officers constitutionally appointed by them, to keep the peace & Order of y^e Colony and to Superintend the Execution of the Colony Laws.

"*Fifth*, Resolved N.C.D. That it would be dangerous and hurtfull to the Inhabitants of this Town to adopt the said Congress measures; and we do hereby publickly disapprove of and protest against said Congress and the measures by them directed as unconstitutional — as subversive of our real Liberties — and as countenancing Licentiousness. Resolved N.C.D. that the Town Clerk be directed to make out a true copy of y^e above s^d votes & transmit

*N. C. D.—*Nemine contra dicente*. No one speaking in opposition.

them to one or more of the printers in New York, that they may be published to the world.

“Test, Stephen Smith, Register.”

It would be interesting to know just what person or group of persons drew up the foregoing resolutions and what master mind inspired their passage at the Town Meeting. The resolutions are carefully framed, and there is no mistaking the attitude taken by the town at this time, with only nine dissenting votes. It is unfortunate that we do not know who the nine patriots were, and, as the minutes show, after the first vote, they evidently realized that there was a very large preponderance of Loyalist sentiment and took no further part in the proceedings.

That the action taken at this meeting met with disfavor by a number of the residents of Ridgefield is evident from the fact that on March 7th, only about five weeks later, another town meeting was held. It is also evident at this meeting that the Loyalists had the upper hand, as Benjamin Stebbins was elected Moderator. Mr. Stebbins may have had Tory inclinations. The Stebbins' house was spared from the torch of the British at the Battle of Ridgefield, possibly in consideration of the fact that one of the Stebbins family piloted the British troops from Danbury to Ridgefield.

That neither the Loyalists nor those who sympathized with Congress desired to act upon the question at this time may be deduced from the fact that the meeting adjourned. The minutes of this meeting are as follows:

“At a Town Meeting held in Ridgefield 7th March, 1775, Mr. Benjamin Stebbins was Chosen Moderator of s^d Meeting. The above Meeting is adjourned 'till y^e 10th of April next to y^e Meeting house at 3 o'clock afternoon.

“Test, Stephen Smith, Reg^r.”

The adjourned meeting was held and the Loyalists once more carried the day, but the minutes do not tell us whether the meeting was acrimonious or not. As the minutes do not state that the resolution was carried "N. C.D." there evidently was considerable opposition to the stand previously taken in January. The minutes of this meeting are as follows:

"At a Town Meeting held in Ridgefield by adjournment April 10th, 1775, from March 7th, 1775, The Question was put Whether y^e Town will explain their Resolves of y^e 30th of Jan. last. Resolved in y^e Negative. The above Meeting is dismissed.

"Test Stephen Smith, Reg^r."

The Battles of Lexington and Concord were fought nine days later. Bunker Hill followed on the seventeenth of June.* A company of Connecticut troops under Captain Thomas Knowlton of Ashford was in the thickest of this fight. General Israel Putnam himself had posted them at the famous rail fence. One thousand Connecticut men had already assembled in Massachusetts in defence of their country. These and succeeding incidents fired the enthusiasm of patriots throughout New England, and we find that Ridgefield was dissatisfied with the record it had made in the town meetings just mentioned. Another meeting was called, the minutes of which are as follows:

"Town Meeting, Dec. 17, 1775.

"On Motion Made Whether Said Meeting, upon Reconsideration do disannul the resolves April 10th entered into and passed on the 30th January, 1775, And adopt and approve of the Continental Congress and the measures Directed to in their association, for securing and Defend-

*No soldier from Ridgefield served at Bunker Hill. However, Jeremiah Rockwell, one of her native sons, fought in this battle. He was the son of John and Hannah (Scott) Rockwell and was born in Ridgefield July 19, 1756. When ten years of age, he went with his parents to Lanesborough, Massachusetts. He died in his ninety-seventh year at Brandon, New York, and is buried in West Bangor, Franklin County, New York.

ing the Rights and Liberties of ye United American Colonies. Resolved in the Affirmative Nem Con.

" Said Meeting voted that the Town Clerk make out a copy of the above Resolve, and transmit the same to one of the printers in New York, in Order that the same may be made public in the News Papers.

" Question put Whether s^d Meeting will choose of a Committee of Inspections agreeably to the 11th article of y^e association of the Continental Congress. Resolved in the Affirmative.

" And Samuel Olmsted, Esq., Col. Philip Burr Bradley, Daniel Coley, Esq., Jacob Jones, Stephen Smith, Timothy Keeler, Capt. Jonah Foster, Nathan Olmsted, William Forrester, John Benedict, James Scott, Ebenezer Jones, Abraham Betts, Matthew Keeler, Timothy Benedict, Nathan Stevens, Samuel Gates, David Platt, Bartholomew Weed, John Jones, Daniel Smith, Ichabod Doolittle, Abraham Gray, Abraham Nash, Silas Hull, and Azor Hurlbut were chosen Committee as above said.

" Also y^e Meeting Made Choice of James Rockwell to collect y^e Town Rates. Also it was voted that the Selectmen set out y^e Surveyor's District. Y^e Meeting is dismissed.

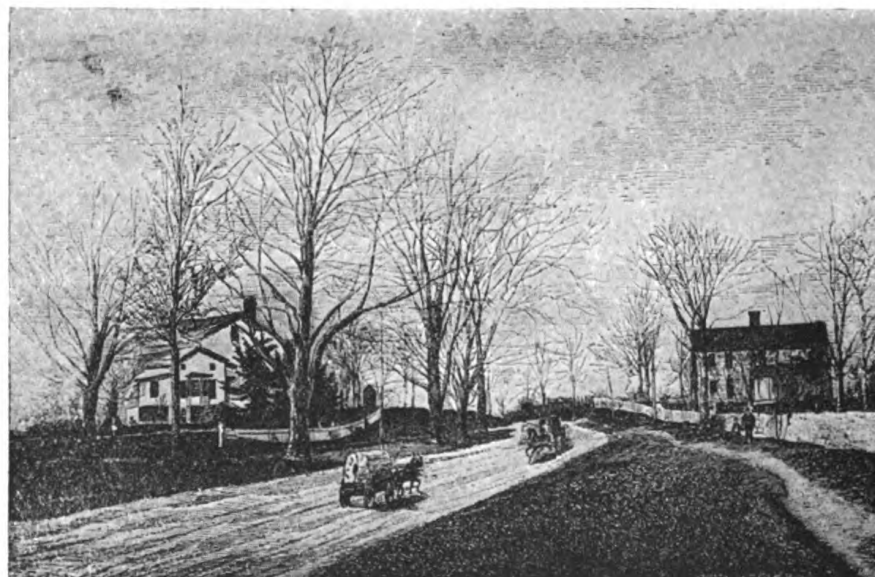
" Stephen Smith, Reg^r."

From then on, Ridgefield was heart and soul in accord with the Continental Congress. That everything was running smoothly is evident from the fact that there were no more special Town Meetings, the next meeting being the annual Town Meeting held December 23rd, 1776, at which the election of officers and the regular town business was conducted. It may be of interest to note that the Grand list of the town of Ridgefield in 1775 was £17,941, 8 sh., 6d.

In the spring of 1777, the inhabitants of Ridgefield realized the importance and the necessity, as well as their duty, in providing for the families of those who were



SWORD PRESENTED TO JEREMIAH KEELER BY GENERAL LAFAYETTE
*for bravery at the Battle of Yorktown. This sword is in the historical room
of The Ridgefield Library.*



BATTLEFIELD OF RIDGEFIELD
as it appeared in 1868.

serving in the ranks of the Continental Army. The minutes of the Town Meeting held at this time are as follows:

"At a Town Meeting held April 4th, 1777, Timothy Keeler was Chosen Moderator. The Meeting adjourned to the Meeting House. The meeting Pursuant to a request and Resolve of the Governor and his Com^{tee} of Safety, choose James Scott, Matthew Keeler, Samuel Benedict, and Samuel Gates a Com^{tee} to provide for y^e families of such soldiers as shall Enlist into the Continental Army with Necessaries at the prices stated by Law.

"Voted also that this Town will give to Each Man that shall enlist as a Soldier into the Continental Services (for three years or during the war, being an Inhabitant of this Town, till the Quota of Town to fill y^e Continental Army be Completed) Six pounds Lawfull money for every year they are in y^e Service to be paid as follows, viz: — Six pounds at the time of their Enlistment, the next six pounds to be paid within the Second year, and so on yearly During their Continuance in Service, and those that Engage that have families, if they die in the service by sickness or ye Sword, to be paid their widow or children one year after their death.

"Also the Town by their Major vote do Agree to Adhere to the Law of this State, Regulating the prices of the Necessaries of Life."

The town meeting also empowered the selectmen to procure money on loan on the town's credit to encourage soldiers to enlist.

As the war continued, the need of clothing and supplies became greater, and in response to the demands from the troops at the front, Ridgefield took a decisive stand and appointed a committee in town meeting to procure clothing. Nearly every member of this committee had already served in the war. The resolutions adopted were as follows:

"At a Town Meeting held in Ridgefield November 17, 1777, Capt. Jonah Foster was Chosen Moderator of s^d Meeting. S^d Meeting by their major vote chose David

Olmsted, Samuel Olmsted, 3rd., Timothy Keeler, Ebenezer Jones, John Waterous, Silas Hull, Ichabod Doolittle, Daniel Rockwell, & Bartholomew Weed to be a Com^{tee} to procure Cloathing for the Soldiers in the Continental Army (that the Assembly of this State hath Required the Town to provide for.) S^d Meeting above is dismissed.

"Test. Stephen Smith, Reg^r."

At a Town Meeting held April 2nd, 1778, a similar resolution was passed:

"At a Town Meeting held in Ridgefield Jany 8, 1778, Lt. Nathan Olmsted was chosen Moderator of s^d meeting. The Question was put in s^d Meeting, Whether the Articles of Confederation & Perpetual Union, Drawn up & Published by the Honorable Continental Congress be approved Resolved in the affirmative.

"Test Stephen Smith, Reg^r

"S^d Meeting is Dismissed.

"Test, Stephen Smith, Reg^r,"

Salt was evidently a scarce commodity. At a Town Meeting held March 3rd, 1778, a committee consisting of John Benedict and Timothy Keeler, 2nd, was appointed to distribute the salt belonging to the town as follows: "One Quart thereof to each person of y^e several families of Men as that are inhabitants of this town and have taken the Oath of Fidelity to the State of Connecticut, and likewise to each person of the families of the Widows in this Town that are accounted friendly to the United States of America, And likewise to each person of the families of those men of this Town that are in the Continental Army, and s^d Committee are to take 6d. Lawfull money per quart for the Same, of persons they deliver the salt to, and the s^d com^{tee}, to attend to the delivering the Salt on the afternoon of each Thursday & Monday in this month till the whole be delivered out, And also keep and render true accounts of their doings in the premises

to y^e Select Men by the first of April next. Voted also that the Com'ee appointed to take care and provide for the families of the Men in the Continental Army, Receive or draw out of the Town Treasury £6.0.s.0d. agreeable to the Vote of the Town and lay the same out for the use and benefit of the Widow and family of Elisha Gilbert, deceased."

At a Town Meeting held December 14th, 1778, Samuel Olmsted was chosen Moderator. Town officers for the ensuing year were elected.

"S^d Meeting by their major vote Gave and Granted to Each Soldier in the Continental Army (that Counts for this Town) the sum of six pounds VI & the money to be Raised by Way of Tax or Rate, made on the List 1778, and each Soldier is to Receive y^e Same by the first of March next, out of the Town Treasury (each of s^d Soldiers procuring a proper Certificate that the counts for the Town's Quota as above expressed,) Meeting granted a Tax of two pence on ye pound to be Raised on y^e September 1778 & paid in to the Town Treasury by y^e first of February next, & Samuel Keeler & John Keeler 2^d were chosen to collect s^d Tax. The Meeting by a Major vote is dismissed.

"Test. S. Smith, Reg^r."

"At a Town Meeting held in Ridgefield 9 August, 1779, Samuel Olmsted, Esq^r was chosen Moderator of s^d Meeting S^d meeting was adjourned from the Town House to the Meeting House.

"Samuel Olmsted Esq^r and Mr. Robert Edmond were chosen Delegates for the Town in order to meet in County Convention at Redding on the 10th Instant at the Dwelling House of Lieut. Stephen Betts at 8 o'clock in the morning in order to consult and adopt suitable measures to prevent the further Depreciation of the paper Currency and Raise its value.

"In said Meeting the Question was put Whether any person that was an inhabitant in this Town, and hath Absconded and gone over to or joined the Enemy of the United States (and hath returned or shall return unto

the Town) be admitted to dwell in the Town, without the Liberty & approbation of the Town first had and obtained by such person or persons. Resolved in the negative.

“Test. Stephen Smith, Reg^r.”

On June 29th, 1780, the town voted to “give each man that shall voluntary enlist or hath lately been detached to fill up this town’s quota in the Continental Army thirty shillings lawfull money per month during time they are in said service. Also to each Soldier that shall or hath lately been Detach’d for this state service (as a soldier) Thirty Shillings Lawfull money per month for all the time they shall be in s^d service over and above one month and the money to be drawn out of the Town Treasury and paid them respectively. Daniel Coley, Esq^r, and David Scott was by s^d meeting appointed a Committee for that purpose.”

“At a Town Meeting held in Ridgefield, February 8th, 1781, Capt. Jonah Foster was chosen Moderator of said Meeting.

“Said Meeting voted that a Committee should be chosen and as soon as may be to make Enquiry and Obtain the number of men that the Town is Deficient respecting their Quota of Soldiers in the Continental Army And Thaddeus Rockwell and William Forrester were chosen for the purpose aforesaid.

“Also s^d Meeting by their Major vote made Choice of Nathan Smith and William Forrester to receive the salt necessary for putting up the Provisions required of this Town to be provided for the Army and to perform every part respecting said Provisions agreeable to an Act of the General Assembly of this state in their last session.”

“At a Town Meeting held in Ridgefield March 23rd, 1781, Col. Philip B. Bradley was chosen Moderator of s^d meeting.

“Said Meeting made choice of Capt. David Olmsted, Col. Bradley, Ebenezer Olmsted, William Forrester and

Stephen Norris a committee to procure Soldiers to complete the Town's Quota for filling up the Continental Army and this State's service.

"Said Meeting Resolved and Ordered that the several classes that have procured Recruits for the Continental Army deliver their said Recruits to the Select Men at the houses of Clements Smith and Daniel Coley, Esq^r On Wednesday the 28th of this Instant at ten o'clock in the morning in order to be taken to Danbury to be Mustered and delivered to an Officer and forwarded to the Continental Army."

The town, on April 13th, 1781, voted to make a settlement with the men who were in the last campaign either Continental or State and were inhabitants of the Town, or counted for the town's quota. It will also be interesting to note that at a town meeting held December 21st, 1780 "Said meeting granted Liberty for Inoculation of y^e small pox to be practiced in this Town from this time to the first of April next and to be under the Restrictions & Regulations as is by Law provided in that Case."

"At a Town Meeting held February 15, 1781, it was voted that William Forrester apply to Colonel Beardsley to come to the Dwelling House of Daniel Smith in Ridgefield on Wednesday the 21st Inst., in order to muster the Soldiers procured by the Town for filling up the Continental Army."

An interesting incident of the Revolution is told in 'The Refugees of 1776 from Long Island to Connecticut,' by Frederick G. Mather, published in 1813. Among the refugees were Mrs. Betty McCloskey, then a widow, and her five children, who came to Ridgefield in 1776, remaining until 1780. In the "Journal of the Connecticut Council of Safety" of November, 1780, we find that Mrs. McCloskey and her five children received "liberty to go to Long Island," under a flag of truce under Brigadier-General Silliman.

An aftermath of the war is given us in a town meeting held in Ridgefield, August 18th, 1786, when it was voted "that Joshua Burt, Jeremiah Smith and Hezekiah Smith (son of Thomas Smith,) who went to Long Island & put themselves under ye protection of ye British in ye last War, & did return, be admitted as Inhabitants of their Town."

"Test, Ben Smith, Town Clerk."

CHAPTER XI
THE BATTLE OF RIDGEFIELD
TRYON'S INVASION

In the latter part of the year 1776, Danbury was chosen by the commissioners of the American Army as a place of deposit for military stores. It was selected because of its situation. As these supplies were mainly intended for the use of the Continental troops operating along the Hudson, Danbury was the most accessible inland town, easy to reach not only from the vicinity of the Hudson but also from all other directions. Good roads for those days ran to the Hudson river, to Long Island Sound, to the North and to the East. By April, 1777, a large quantity of provisions, munitions of war, clothing, medicines and many other articles of comfort and necessity for army life had been accumulated there.

Sir William Howe, Commander-in-Chief of the British army with his headquarters in New York City, had been informed of the large quantity of stores deposited at Danbury for the use of the Continental troops. Consequently he laid plans to destroy these stores.

On April 25th, 1777, twenty-six vessels appeared off Compo Point, twenty transports and six ships of war. It was the squadron sent out by Sir William Howe from New York City, carrying two brigades of troops whose objective was Danbury. The brigades, consisting of about two thousand men, infantry, cavalry and artillery, were landed in boats upon the point. This expedition was commanded by Ex-Governor William Tryon of New York, who had recently been commissioned a Major General of Provincials in His Majesty's Army. With him were Generals James Agnew and Sir William Erskine.

The British forces were landed by four o'clock in the afternoon and immediately set out for Danbury. Their march had just begun when they were met with a galling fire from the rifles of seventeen patriots who were stationed behind a stone wall on Compo Road. One of the British was killed and a Major and three others wounded, and were carried back to the boats. The British marched about eight miles that afternoon, as far as Weston, and encamped for the night. At an early hour next morning, they broke camp and proceeded as far as Redding Ridge, where a halt was made near the church, for a short time. Then the march was again resumed. Nothing occurred to disturb them until they reached Hoyt's Hill in Bethel.

Upon the top of the hill a single horseman appeared, brandishing his sword, and looking backward, shouted, "Halt! The whole universe, wheel into kingdoms!" General Tryon was much disturbed upon the appearance and actions of this man, (by name Luther Holcomb,) and ordered his entire army to halt. He sent out detachments to reconnoitre. They returned with the news that the only person in sight was the horseman riding in the distance at full speed for Danbury.

The British passed through Bethel about one o'clock and an hour later arrived at Danbury. There were a few Continental troops at Danbury commanded by Colonel Joseph P. Cooke and Colonel Huntington, poorly armed and supplied with but little ammunition. They withdrew to the north part of the village and under cover of darkness by a circuitous route, joined General Wooster that night at Bethel. It is entirely probable that some shots were fired by the troops under Colonel Joseph Cooke. However, it is a matter of fact that Eliphalet Brush of New Fairfield fired the first shot upon the invaders, and that his brother Thomas had a bullet pass through his hat.*

*Samuel Sidney St. John of Ridgebury, in his autobiographical sketch, furnishes the information in regard to Eliphalet and Thomas Brush. Mr. St. John married Lucy, the youngest daughter of Lieutenant Brush.

General Tryon selected for his headquarters the house of Nehemiah Dibble at the extreme south end of Main Street, while Generals Erskine and Agnew took up their quarters in the house of Benjamin Knapp on White Street, which was then called Barren Plain Road.* This house was close to Main Street.

In Tryon's march through Bethel there was no bloodshed and no property destroyed. The main portion of the British troops passed up the old road which runs west of Coal Pit Hill. After leaving Bethel, the skirmish line of the British extended from Thomas Mountain on the west to Shelter Rock on the east. As Generals Agnew and Erskine were proceeding up Main Street, shots were fired at their body guard by three men who were stationed in the house of Major Ezra Starr, which was located on the present corner of Main and Boughton Streets. The young men and an unarmed negro were shot as they fled, and their bodies thrown into the house which was set on fire and entirely destroyed.

The main body of the British troops, soon after their arrival, began to destroy the stores. The Episcopal Church was filled with supplies. They were stored as high as the galleries. These supplies were rolled out into the street and burned, as the Church being the Church of England was respected by the English and spared. This church stood near the cemetery on South street, which burying ground was part of its church yard. Some of the supplies were in the Dibble barn, and as Mr. Dibble was an ardent Tory, these stores were rolled out and burned, and his barn spared. In a short time eighteen hundred barrels of pork and beef, seven hundred barrels of flour, two thousand bushels of grain, consisting of wheat, oats, rye and Indian corn, clothing for a regiment of troops, seventeen hundred

*Benjamin Knapp lived until 1834, fifty-seven years after he unwillingly entertained the British Generals, when he met his death by being kicked by a colt. He lived in Beaver Brook District at the time of his death.

and ninety tents, were burned*. There were many other commodities which were consumed such as rum, wine, sugar, salt-petre, coffee, rice, molasses, and various other articles of food and comfort. The smoke arising from the conflagration was strangulating, and the fat from the burning pork and meat ran ankle-deep in the street. There was a large quantity of liquor among the stores consisting principally of New England rum and wine. The troops used this so freely that before evening the greater portion of the invaders were in a terrible state of intoxication, so that the night was passed in carousing and continued drinking. It is unfortunate that the Continental troops did not know of the exact condition of Tryon's soldiers that night. His entire force could easily have been annihilated. There were, however, enough of the troops sober to perform the duty of marking a white cross upon the houses of the Tories with a piece of lime.

General Tryon, to whom reports had come that the Continental militia was forming and hurrying to attack his troops, was probably considerably disturbed and uneasy when he saw the drunken condition of his men. About one o'clock in the morning, he was informed that the Americans were in Bethel. This news upset the plans previously made by him for a stay in Danbury over the Sabbath.

His position was becoming very perilous. His men were aroused about two A. M. Nineteen houses, over twenty stores and shops, and the meeting house of the new Danbury Society were burned. Previous to this time but three buildings had been burned; a house on South Street, the house of Captain Ezra Starr and a building situated on lower Main Street. This last building was full of grain and was burned with its contents. Tryon decided

*Barber in his Historical Collections gives the amounts destroyed as nearly as can be ascertained as 3,000 barrels of pork, 1,000 barrels of flour, several hundred barrels of beef and 1,600 tents.

that it was better not to return to his fleet at Compo over the same line of march as on the journey to Danbury. Thinking to mislead General Wooster, he took up the line of march toward Ridgefield, a detour being made through Ridgebury. He evidently knew that his return was cut off if he went directly back to Compo. Before sunrise, the last of the British were leaving Danbury. The main line of march was out the present Wooster Street to Miry Brook, and thence to Ridgebury.*

A portion of the troops passed out by way of South Street, and the upper end of Mountainville Avenue, then over Hull's Hill. The last house burned in Danbury was at the southwest corner of South Street and Mountainville Avenue. At Miry Brook several patriots had removed the bridge from over the brook. It is said that the cannon of the British became mired and the name Miry Brook was given to this stream because of this incident. The British were obliged to make a temporary bridge of rails in order to get the cannon across. The line of march taken by Tryon to Ridgebury and thence to Ridgefield will be taken up later on while we give our attention to the activities of the Continental troops from the time Tryon landed at Compo.

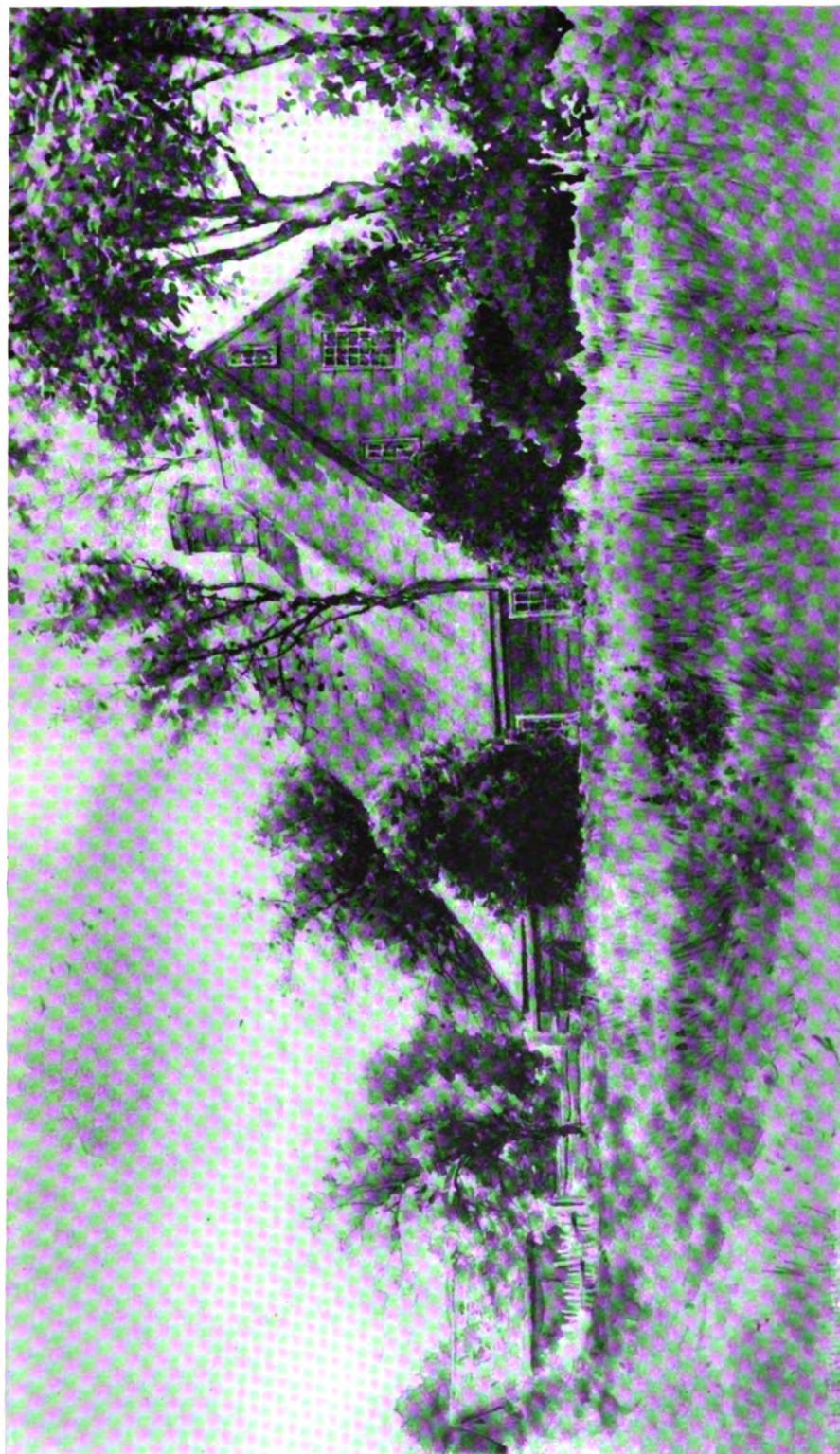
The fleet under Tryon had left New York City on the night of April 24th. The next morning it was seen off Norwalk as it passed by the islands but its destination was unknown. When the fleet anchored off Compo, General Silliman, who was Commander-in-Chief of the Connecticut militia, was at his home in Fairfield, and he was immediately informed of the landing of the British. He sent out expresses in all directions to arouse the militia.

General Wooster was at New Haven, and General Benedict Arnold who also lived in that city was home

*Historians have explained why the British did not proceed through Sugar Hollow, saying that General Tryon feared to take his regiment through this defile. As a matter of fact, there was no road through Sugar Hollow at that time, the present road having been built about 1812.

on a furlough. General Wooster directed that the militia from New Haven, as much as could be gathered, and nearby towns, march to Fairfield. Meanwhile General Silliman with five hundred militia men was already on the trail of Tryon. He reached Redding about noon, where a halt was made. General Silliman remained here until the militia under General Wooster arrived. It was raining and the march was slow. The entire number of troops under Wooster after joining Silliman was about seven hundred. The march was again taken up in a terrible storm and it was eleven o'clock at night before Bethel was reached. Tired and wet, a stop was made for the night, General Wooster having decided to attack Tryon on his return. There was probably no general camping place in Bethel and it is presumed that the Continental troops sought shelter for the night, billeting in barns and other buildings of the patriots of that village. The muskets were injured by the rain and were unfit for use. The few Continental troops at Danbury, as stated previously, joined Wooster at Bethel. This force amounted to about fifty men who were on their way to join the Army on the Hudson, and about one hundred militia men.

General Wooster was informed early in the morning of the 27th that Tryon was leaving. He divided his forces. About five hundred men under Generals Arnold and Silliman were sent across country to Ridgefield to intercept the British at that point. General Wooster hurried to Danbury with about two hundred men, but Tryon had already departed. From Miry Brook, Tryon's troops marched directly to Ridgebury. From old residents it has been definitely ascertained that a part of his troops passed through Ridgebury Street, while another portion turned off at the second long hill just east of the church, and proceeded through the woods through that section of Ridgebury known as Bogus. There was a well defined road at that time, and some of their artillery went by this



REAR VIEW OF THE STEBINS HOUSE,
which building formed a portion of the barricade erected by the American troops in defense of Ridgefield.

route. Today the highway of the Revolutionary period is only a wood road, but plainly seen and may be followed.

At the corner of Ridgebury Street, a young girl, more curious than prudent, looked out upon the British troops from an upstairs window as they were passing by. What she did or said must be a matter of conjecture, as she ducked her head just in time to escape being struck by a shower of bullets from their guns. This house was then the home of Captain Timothy Benedict.

The British troops after arriving in Ridgebury turned south and proceeded toward Ridgefield village through the gap in the Ledges into Scotland district, halting upon the flat near the school house for breakfast. Out-flanking parties kept to the west of the main army in Ridgebury, passing near South Ridgebury school house, over the ridge westerly along the old abandoned road and through Spring Valley, joining the remainder of the troops where they had halted for breakfast. This last detachment burned a mill belonging to Isaac Keeler, which stood near the North Salem road on the outlet of Lake Mamanasco. A considerable quantity of corn which was stored in this mill was also burned.

*The British killed several cattle belonging to neighboring farmers for their breakfast. The writer has never been able to ascertain that General Wooster followed the British through Ridgebury. As stated, General Wooster arrived in Danbury too late to attack Tryon.

Wooster, when he learned that Tryon had such a lead, immediately struck across country, probably coming into Ridgefield over Barlow Mountain, which lies easterly of

*The troopers chased a cow down the hill near the present home of Mrs. Cortlandt P. Dixon. The cow was so frightened that before they could capture her, she ran into Mamanasco Lake and was drowned.

Mr. J. Willis Wade of Scotland District relates a story told by his grandmother, who lived just across the highway from the place where the British stopped for breakfast. After the skirmish, and when everything became quieted down, Mrs. Nathan Scott, the grandmother of Mr. Wade, gathered up enough fat and bones to make two barrels of soft soap.

Scotland District. The old Post Road originally ran from Danbury to Ridgefield by way of Salt Pond and Starrs Plain. Taking this road and crossing the present Sugar Hollow Road near Maplewood and continuing easterly over Barlow Mountain, this route would enable General Wooster to overtake Tryon as he did. In his first charge, about eight o'clock, Wooster appeared with his forces from out of a piece of woods. These woods are evidently those along the Titicus River just east of the place where the British halted for breakfast. Wooster fell upon them with such surprise that he captured forty men, besides inflicting other losses. After the first attack Wooster withdrew with his prisoners and waited until the British army was again on the march before he made a second dash upon them. The second attack was made about two miles above Ridgefield village, just below the fork in the road leading to the Ridgefield School, and here the brave general received his death wound. At this point the enemy was hidden by the hill to the west and south, when Wooster made this second charge. He fell fiercely upon the rear of the British, and almost at the beginning of the attack received his mortal wound.

The British had six pieces of artillery, three in front and three guarding the rear. The screaming of the grape shot and whistling of the balls frightened the militia men and they hesitated in charging. Wooster endeavored to rally them, and turning in his saddle shouted, "Come on, my boys, never mind such random shots!"

While leading his men and before he had time to turn his face toward the enemy after his exhortation, he was struck by the fatal musket ball. He fell from his horse and his sash was stripped from him and used to bear him from the field of battle. The British were evidently retreating towards Ridgefield village, or the body of Wooster might not have been recovered. The brave general was carried back a half mile over the line of march just



passed by his foes. Upon a large flat rock on the westerly side of the road, the wounded patriot was laid. Dr. Turner, a surgeon with the militia, dressed his wounds. The General was then placed in a carriage and taken back to Danbury, to the house of Nehemiah Dibble, at the foot of Main Street, the same house which had been the headquarters of General Tryon.

For three days, he lay in the Dibble house suffering agony, and then fell into a stupor. Before his death, his wife arrived from New Haven, but by this time he had become unconscious and did not recognize her. He died Friday, May 2nd. A tablet has been erected by the Daughters of the Revolution of Danbury in front of the house where Wooster died.* The funeral was held on Sunday, May 4th, just a week after the battle, and we are told that it was a quiet affair, for Danbury was sorely afflicted. He was laid to rest in the old cemetery on the present Wooster Street. His remains were afterwards taken to the cemetery which bears his name. Here, on April 7th, 1854, the Wooster monument was unveiled and dedicated, ten thousand attending the ceremonies. Among them were Governor Charles H. Pond, Ex-Governor Chauncey F. Cleveland, Mrs. Lydia Huntley Sigourney, the poet-

*General David Wooster was born in Stratford, Connecticut, March 2nd, 1710. He graduated from Yale in 1738, and the following year when the Spanish War broke out was made a Lieutenant and soon afterwards was promoted to the office of Captain of a vessel built and armed by the colony as a Coast Guard. In 1740, he married the daughter of Reverend Thomas Clapp, President of Yale College. He was a Captain in Colonel Burr's regiment which went on the expedition to Louisburg in 1745, from which place he went to Europe in command of a ship. He was first a Colonel and then a Brigadier in the French and Indian War that ended in 1763. In 1775 he espoused the patriot cause and was present when Ticonderoga was taken. When the Continental army was organized, Wooster was appointed one of eight Brigadier-Generals, third in rank. He was in the Canada Campaign in 1776 where he had chief command for a while. Returning to his native state, he was appointed the First Major-General of the Militia of Connecticut. In that capacity he was serving at the time of Tryon's Invasion. He was wounded in the Battle of Ridgefield, April 27, 1777, and died at Danbury, May 2nd. His sword and sash are in Yale College.

ess, Judge Thomas B. Butler of Norwalk and Henry C. Deming of Hartford, who was the orator of the day.

The late Ex-Governor George E. Lounsbury of Ridgefield was among those who attended the dedication of the monument. A few years after this occasion, he was a teacher in Jackson's Boarding School, afterwards the Turner House, and now the Knights of Columbus Home. He often spoke of a conversation that he had at this time with one of the old residents of Danbury. Historians have told us that when the disinterment of the remains of Wooster was about to take place, there was some question as to the exact location of his grave. Governor Lounsbury said that an aged negro, who as a young man was present at the time of the burial, pointed out the place. Upon opening the grave there were found metal portions of the uniform, also a bullet, which confirmed the evidence presented by the old colored man.

Upon the fall of Wooster, the command fell temporarily upon his aide de camp, Stephen Rowe Bradley.* While these skirmishes were going on, Generals Arnold and Silliman had arrived at Ridgefield village and proceeded to erect a fortification across the street in the narrow spot of the road near the house of Benjamin Stebbins, now the home of Miss Mary Olcott.

A barricade of stones, carts and logs was erected across the road extending from the old house to the ledge of rocks on the other side. As has been stated, the road was very narrow at that point, and very much higher at that time than it is at present, and there was no house on the westerly side. Here Generals Arnold and Silliman with five hundred men awaited the approach of the British.

About noon, the British, advancing in three columns,

*Stephen Rowe Bradley was a native of Cheshire, Connecticut. He graduated from Yale in the class of 1780. He was a bright lawyer and one of the first senators from Vermont, which position he held for sixteen years.



SPOT WHERE GENERAL WOOSTER RECEIVED HIS DEATH-WOUND.
A tablet now marks the place.



HISTORIC CORNER ON BRANCHVILLE ROAD
Residence of Samuel Norris. The old house standing here was used as a hospital by the British during the Battle of Ridgfield.

came into sight.* As soon as General Tryon discovered the barricade, he halted, and ordered General Agnew to advance with the main body of his troops in solid column. Detachments were also sent out to flank the Americans and fall upon their rear. Several times the Americans poured a deadly fire upon the advancing foe. The engagement lasted about a quarter of an hour. The flanking parties must have extended for some distance, as Colonel Abram Gould of Fairfield was shot about a quarter of a mile east of the Stebbins' house. The stretch of land just north of the present residence of Dr. R. W. Lowe was at that time, a wet marshy piece of ground, and served as a natural protection on that side.† Being unable to dislodge the Americans at the front, General Agnew was ordered to make an attack on the left flank.‡ With a Company of Hessian soldiers, he succeeded in climbing the ledge and thus gained a decided point of vantage. A whole platoon of soldiers who reached the summit of the

*As the British were passing through Titicus, they tried to enter the residence near the watering-trough, then occupied by Epenetus Howe, recently the home of Mrs. Ellsworth E. Russell. It was reported that a spy was secreted in this house, and when the soldiers tried to enter, they found the doors barricaded. One of them tried to get in by a window and received several cuts on his fingers from a butcher knife used by an inmate of the house. Marks remained on the window sill for many years. Except for the fact that the Americans were pressing closely upon the British, this house would probably have been burned.

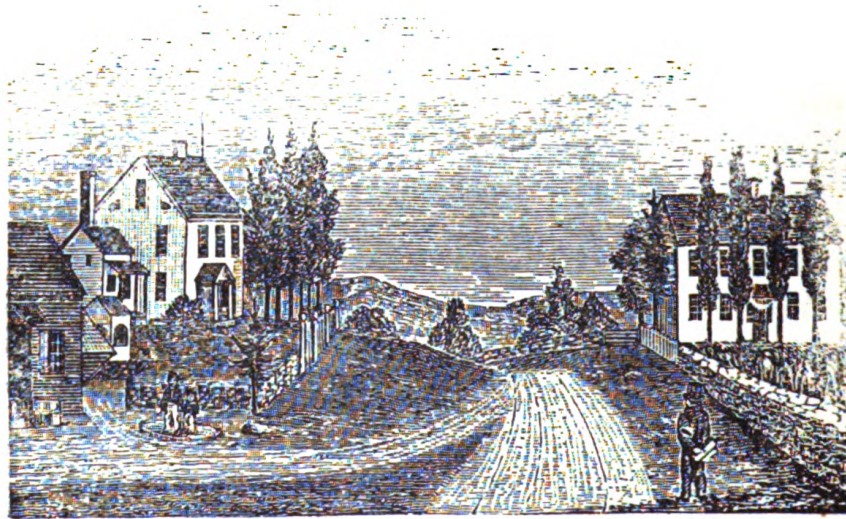
†From the time of the battle, it has been handed down until the present day from the people living in Scotland district that two *Hessians* were buried in the sand bank south of the present residence of Sidney D. Farrar. About 1874, while digging, some working men uncovered some bones. The bodies had been interred at a depth of four feet and the skeletons were lying near each other, side by side. Dr. A. Y. Paddock, for whom the sand was being drawn, secured the skeletons. One was almost perfect, and Dr. Paddock exhibited it at the Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia, in 1876. He was offered two hundred dollars for the skeleton, which offer he refused.

‡In the March (1888) number of the Magazine of American History, Clifford A. H. Bartlett says:

"When within a few miles of Ridgefield, General Wooster fell upon the rear of the column, and a sharp engagement ensued, in which forty Hessians were captured," and farther on—"a strong body of Hessians under Agnew finally turned the left of Arnold's position."

In the report of Lord Howe transmitted to Lord George Germaine, at London, Ensign Menichin is given among the list of wounded in Tryon's Invasion.

rocks in advance of the regiment, fired upon General Arnold at a distance of less than thirty yards. He was untouched, but his horse fell beneath him, struck by nine balls. This fact was ascertained from a farmer who skinned the horse the next day. For a moment, Arnold was delayed in getting to his feet. While trying to extricate himself, a Tory rushed up with his bayonet, exclaiming,



SITE OF THE BARRICADE AT THE BATTLE OF RIDGEFIELD
as it appeared in 1835. Stebbins' House on the right and the William Lee House on the left. The Lee House was not built until 1812. To the left is a part of the Gilbert Store. The two boys are standing on the spot where General Arnold's horse was shot under him.

"You are my prisoner." Arnold replied, "Not yet! ",* and drawing a pistol from his holster, shot him dead. Amidst a shower of bullets, he escaped to a swamp nearby. The number of Americans killed in the battle was between forty and fifty. Of the British loss, no accurate account has been given. Several of the dead are buried in the field upon the scene of the battle.

The Stebbins' house was not destroyed by the British. Benjamin Stebbins, the owner, was in the house during the

*One version of Arnold's reply is "Not yet, Daddy. One live man is worth ten dead ones."

battle. He was an old man at the time, crippled and infirm. His son, Josiah, was a Tory and accompanied the British on their march from Danbury. His son's affiliation with the British cause may have been the reason this house was spared from the British torch. This house caught fire several times; but the son extinguished the flames. Benjamin Stebbins had a very narrow escape. He selected a little bedroom facing the east, as the safest place for him to remain. A bullet passed close to his head, ripping a long hole through the bedroom door. The house was riddled with bullets and cannon-balls, the marks of these being plainly seen until the old house was torn down in 1892.

During the battle, the house was used as a hospital for the wounded. The stains of blood from the wounds of a young British officer who died there were visible in the oak floor of the long west room as long as the house remained.

After the unhorsing of General Arnold, which was about the same time that the barricade was forced, the American troops retired, ordered to do so by General Arnold through a shower of small and grape-shot. The battle did not end in Ridgefield at this time. Firing was kept up all day through the street, along East Ridge, across the hill where are now the homes of Franklin H. Olmsted, Mrs. Mary Kearney, and the former property of William S. Hawk, continuing south on the Whipstick Ridge near the homes of Mrs. Henry Benedict and Professor Frederic Dielman. The British placed a cannon in front of the Episcopal Church which stood near the site of the present edifice, and several shots were fired down the street. As stated elsewhere, the Keeler Tavern appeared to be the particular object of their attack.

Several cannon balls have been found on Main Street. Two were found by the late Hubert P. Main, who lived with his parents in the house north of the residence of

the late Governor Phineas C. Lounsbury. These balls were found in the yard. Another ball was found in the road when it was being repaired in front of the residence of Governor Lounsbury, about 1778. About 1880, Ebenezer A. Hoyt plowed up a ball on the lawn in the street in front of his house, opposite the Keeler Tavern. In 1925 a cannon ball similar but smaller than the one in the beam at the Keeler Tavern, was found on the grounds of Gerardus P. Herrick on High Ridge. Undoubtedly many cannon balls fired that day remain buried along the Main Street. Many years ago an ounce ball was found in a limb which blew down from the large elm tree in front of the Colonel Scott block. The ball was cut in two when the limb was being sawed into fire-wood.

Stores for the Continental Troops had been placed in the Episcopal Church, and the British set fire to this in the morning just before their departure. The flames were extinguished, but the church was rendered unfit for worship.

The British continued down the street. When they arrived at the Keeler Tavern, they proceeded to set it on fire, as the house was occupied by Timothy Keeler, the proprietor, well known as an ardent patriot. The house to the south, the present home of E. LeGrand Beers, was owned by a Tory by the name of Hoyt. The wind was blowing strongly from the northwest, and his own house would have gone with the Keeler Tavern, if the latter burned. He expostulated against setting the Tavern on fire, and his request was granted. Upon Mr. Keeler's return home after the British had passed by, he was met by Mr. Hoyt. The following dialogue is reported to have passed between them. Mr. Hoyt exclaimed, "You can thank me that your house is not destroyed." Mr. Keeler replied, "No, Sir, I will not thank a Tory for anything. I would rather thank the Lord for the north wind."

The British camped for the night on the grounds of

Samuel Olmsted, later owned by Hiram Olmsted, and now the home of Dr. Newton M. Shaffer. This spot is the site of the old fair grounds. In their march to their camp, some of the troops went through Olmsted Lane, others proceeding down the street.

Scouting parties were sent out through different sections of the township. As far east as Farmingville, the Wakeman Burritt house was entered.* A musket was found here and so the house was set on fire. The horsemen rode off and the inhabitants quickly returned and put out the flames. To the east of the village at the former Northrop homestead, where now lives Samuel Norris, the troops also stopped. It is said a woman waved a red petticoat out of the window and they went on. During the day this house was used as a hospital by the British.

During their short stay in Ridgefield, the British seized all the provisions they could find, and took the clothing from the homes of the people. It is a wonder that they did not burn the town. Six houses were burned in Ridgefield; the house of Isaac Keeler near Lake Mamanasco, the house of Benjamin Northrop, which stood near the present entrance to Mrs. F. E. Lewis' residence in West Lane, a house on High Ridge north of old Peter Parley House near the site of the house of the late A. Newbold Morris, and another near the site of their encampment on the old fair grounds owned by the Seymour family. This last building was probably set on fire in the morning as a warning or signal to those remaining on shipboard at Compo. As stated elsewhere, they burned the grist-mill and saw-mill of Isaac Keeler in Scotland district and destroyed one hundred barrels of flour and some Indian corn, and killed and carried off horses, sheep and cattle.

*This house stood northerly of the cut-off running easterly from Great Swamp. Large maples, lilac bushes and traces of the cellar mark the spot. One of its last occupants was Elisha Lounsbury, brother of Nathan Lounsbury.

The well standing near the Olmsted house in Flat Rock was filled up with stones. It is not known why this was done, but it is supposed that they may have thought the inhabitants had secreted valuables there, or the British may have thrown some of their own dead in the well. It is known, however, that their men who died during the night were buried in the woods near the encampment. On the morning of the 28th, Tryon set out for his vessels at Compo Point.

In their march through Wilton, they entered many houses demanding food. The inhabitants of this town assumed that the greater portion of the British army might proceed over Belden Hill to Norwalk. Tryon, however, evidently feared that he would meet with further trouble if he returned to the shipping through Norwalk, and so he took the Westport road. General Arnold had pushed on from Ridgefield and had rallied the militia, and with Colonel Lamb with three cannon, and Lieutenant Colonel Oswald, posted his troops on the line of Tryon's march through Westport, at Old Hill.

Tryon, upon hearing of the activities of Arnold, changed his course and crossed the river three miles above the bridge. The British hurried on to their boats. Under cover of guns from the ships, they re-embarked. Meanwhile, a detachment of marines sent ashore by General Erskine fell upon the weary patriots, and at least twenty-five Americans were killed in this engagement. The British set sail about sunset.

Their loss in the invasion is estimated at three hundred men. Tryon in his report to Lord George Germaine, the British Secretary of War, gives the following, which is a portion of his report:

"At a mill between Ridgebury and Danbury were destroyed 100 barrels of flour and a quantity of Indian Corn. At the bridge at the west brace of Norwalk River, and in the woods contiguous; 100 hogsheads of rum; several chests of arms; paper cartridges; field forges; 300 tents.



RESIDENCE OF SIDNEY D. FARRAR, SCOTLAND DISTRICT —
Below this place, two Hessian soldiers were buried in a sand-bank.



VIEW ON HIGH RIDGE
*Residences of Gerardus P. Herrick and Mrs. Charles Holt. A cannon-ball
 was unearthed on the Herrick Lawn in 1925.*

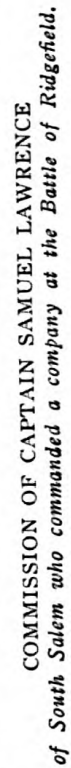
"Return of the killed, wounded and missing:

"One drummer and fifer; 23 rank and file, killed; 3 field officers, 6 captains, 3 subalterns, 9 sergeants, 92 rank and file, wounded; one drummer and fifer, 27 rank and file missing.

(Signed) W. Howe."

At Westport, Tryon himself was slightly wounded. Colonel Lamb was wounded by a grape-shot, receiving a severe contusion, and a bullet passed through the collar of General Arnold's coat and his horse was wounded beneath him.

The one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the battle of Ridgefield was celebrated on Decoration Day, May 30th, 1927, with fitting ceremonies, this day being chosen for the celebration instead of April 27th, on account of the weather.



CHAPTER XII

FURTHER INCIDENTS OF THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR

One is strongly tempted to wish that Benedict Arnold had not escaped the bullets intended for him at the Battle of Ridgefield. Had he fallen on that field of honor, his place today would be amid the heroes of our nation, and the awful crime of treason would never have come to overshadow his memory. The fickleness of human nature stands out boldly in almost every chapter of human history. Arnold dying on the battlefield of Ridgefield, Quebec or at Saratoga would have made glorious history. Arnold selling his right to glory for a bribe makes ignoble fame. How subtle is the hand of Fate as it writes the history of our lives! Wooster, loyal and true, was called to give up his life for the country he loved, while Arnold, upon the same day, was spared to reap the whirlwind of his treachery.

Wooster, the patriot, honored and revered living, dies a hero, leaving a name that will ever be spoken in accents of pardonable pride, and a memory that as a sacred trust will ever be handed down when loyalty to our country is taught, as it must ever be taught, among the first lessons to America's youth. Upon the soil of Ridgefield was poured forth the life-blood of that body he so willingly and generously sacrificed on the altar of Freedom and Independence.

For his gallantry at Ridgefield, Arnold was made a Major-General by Congress. He was placed at the bottom of the list, however, with four others whom he previously had commanded, above him. On May 30, 1777, Congress



voted him a horse, fully caparisoned, to replace the one shot beneath him at Ridgefield and the other which was wounded beneath him at Westport.

There is no list in detail of the Continental troops who participated in the Battle of Ridgefield. The author has collated from family histories and from various books and papers a few of those who were killed or wounded at Ridgefield. Beside General Wooster, there were the following:—

Colonel Abraham Gould of Fairfield, killed on his horse; Dr. David Atwater of New Haven, killed; Major Thaddeus Crane* of North Salem, wounded; Solomon Buell of Litchfield, wounded; David Stevens of Stamford, shot; Lieutenant Hezekiah Davenport at Stamford, shot; Samuel Seeley of Easton, killed; Stephen Fairchild of Redding, wounded; William Edmonds of Newtown, wounded; Lieutenant Ephraim Middlebrook of Trumbull, killed†, Colonel John Benjamin of Stratford, seriously wounded in the neck with buck-shot; Captain Ebenezer Coe of Stratford, "painfully" wounded in head and right eye; Lieutenant William Thompson with General Silliman, killed;

*Major Thaddeus Crane of North Salem was wounded almost at the same moment as General Wooster. He was shot through the body and bled his boots full. He was so weak that he could barely keep his seat on his horse and could have been captured easily had the British known his condition.

He was carried to the rear and his wounds dressed on the same rock used by the surgeon in caring for General Wooster. The bullet after passing through his body lodged in his skin. Major Crane died September 1st, 1803, and is buried in the Salem Center Cemetery.

†Lieutenant Middlebrook is buried in the Long Hill Cemetery at Trumbull. The following is the inscription upon his tomb-stone:

IN MEMORY OF
LIEUT. EPHRAIM MIDDLEBROOK
WHO FOUGHT, BLED AND DIED IN DEFENCE OF HIS
COUNTRY, AT THE BATTLE OF RIDGEFIELD, ON
THE 27TH DAY OF APRIL, 1777, IN THE
41ST YEAR OF HIS AGE; AND ON
THE 3RD DAY OF MAY WAS IN-
TERRED HERE WITH THE
HONORS OF WAR.

Lieutenant Nathaniel Gray of Redding, killed;* Abraham Smith of North Salem, wounded, was taken home and died of his wounds.

The following were among those who were taken prisoners:

Benjamin Keeler of Wilton, James and Newton Crawford of Pound Ridge, Thomas Couch of Redding, and Israel Chapman of Salem.

Isaac Waterbury of Stamford was captured and taken to New York and imprisoned in the old Sugar House.

Lebbeus Mead of South Salem was found on the Wilton Road on the morning of the 28th, and was picked up as dead. He recovered and lived for many years, his death occurring July 1, 1814. He is buried in the South Salem Churchyard.

Among the distinguished officers at the engagement at the Stebbins' house must be mentioned Dr. Levi Ives of New Haven, a renowned surgeon.

David Waterbury of Stamford was in the fight and saw General Wooster when he was killed and Arnold when he escaped. Among other soldiers at the Battle of Ridgefield were Beach Tomlinson of Woodbridge, Lieutenant Matthew Gregory and Captain Azor Belden of Wilton, Ebenezer Nichols of Danbury, John Terrill, William Noble, William Drinkwater, David Buell, Reuben Phillips of New Milford, Samuel Gold of Redding, Elias Bennett of Weston, Colonel Philip Burr Bradley and Benjamin Smith of Ridgefield.

*Abraham Smith was born in Ridgefield June 6, 1733, the son of Jonathan and Ruth Smith. He married Sarah, daughter of Colonel Thaddeus Crane, and moved from North Salem to Bolton, Vermont, when his son John Keyser Smith was very young. This son studied law at Potsdam, New York. While home during the war of 1812, he entered the army as quartermaster. He fought at the battle of Plattsburg, and also in the battle of Lundy's Lane. His company was disbanded at Detroit in 1815. He settled upon the St. Clair river, where is now the city of Algonac. His wife was Katherine McDonald of Plainfield, Michigan, and ten children were born to this couple.

Usual Knapp of Little Britain, Orange County, New York, was at the battle. He lived to be over ninety years of age. Mr. Knapp was a Sergeant in Washington's Life Guard, serving in this distinguished corps over two years. In the battle of Ridgefield was a company of Continentals from South Salem commanded by Captain Samuel Lawrence, who hurried over to be in the fight. With Captain Lawrence was his young son, Samuel, who, when he saw the British approaching, raised his rifle to shoot prematurely; but his father, with a blow of his sword, knocked the weapon down.

During the battle on the Titicus Road, the inhabitants of the town gathered in considerable numbers along the hillside east of North Street. The writer recalls hearing Amelia Gilbert of Farmingville describe how her mother, whose maiden name was Jerusha Banks, saw General Wooster when he fell from his horse.

Miss Mary Olcott has placed a tablet in the wall upon the site of the battle near the old Stebbins' house. It is a fine record engraved in a large block of native stone. Hundreds of people passing through our town stop to read and copy the inscription, which is as follows:

IN DEFENCE OF AMERICAN INDEPENDENCE
AT THE BATTLE OF RIDGEFIELD
APRIL 27, 1777
DIED
EIGHT PATRIOTS
WHO WERE LAID IN THESE GROUNDS
COMPANIONED BY
SIXTEEN BRITISH SOLDIERS
LIVING THEIR ENEMIES, DYING THEIR GUESTS,
"IN HONOR OF SERVICE AND SACRIFICE
THIS MEMORIAL IS PLACED
FOR THE STRENGTHENING OF HEARTS."

Upon the exact spot where General Wooster fell is another stone, erected by Edward A. Housman, formerly of Danbury, who has shown his patriotism in so doing. The inscription is as follows:

PLACE WHERE
WOOSTER FELL
DAVID WOOSTER
FIRST MAJOR GENERAL OF THE CONN. TROOPS
IN THE ARMY OF THE REV.
BRIG. GEN. OF THE UNITED COL.
BORN AT STRATFORD MARCH 2, 1710/11
WOUNDED ON THIS SPOT APRIL 27, 1777
WHILE DEFENDING THE LIBERTIES OF AMERICA
DIED AT DANBURY MAY 2, 1777
"GIVE ME LIBERTY OR GIVE ME DEATH" PATRICK HENRY
PRESENTED JULY 4, 1896 BY E. A. HOUSMAN OF DANBURY, CONN.

In another portion of this volume will be found inscriptions taken from the tombstones of many of the soldiers, whose last resting places are in the cemeteries of our township.

Following the left wing of the British as they passed through the town was a company of boys. Ebenezer Jones, the son of Captain Jones, was among them. Near the large boulder which stands near Professor Frederic Dielman's residence they came upon a British soldier mortally wounded. Ebenezer notified his father, Captain Jones, and the latter saddled his horse and brought the wounded man to his own house, where he tenderly cared for him until he died. He buried the dead soldier in the old cemetery at the lower end of the village street. Captain Jones lived near the lower end of the village on the Wilton Road.

Lossing, in his admirable work, "Pictorial Field Book of the Revolution," writes as follows: "The expedition to Danbury, in the spring of 1777, conducted by Governor Tryon of New York in person, was in its inception, progress, and result, disgraceful of the British character, no less on account of the barbarity and savagism displayed than of the arrant cowardice that marked all the movements of the marauders."

On May 26th, 1777, the Selectmen of Ridgefield in their petition to the General Assembly, stated that the

British in their incursion and retreat from Danbury, passed through Ridgefield and in so passing burned the grist-mill and saw-mill of Isaac Keeler; also burned six dwelling houses and two barns, and killed and "carried off a number of horses, sheep and cattle. That the enemy took up their quarters there over night, when they plundered the inhabitants of nearly all their provisions, and a large share of clothing, by which many were reduced to poverty, and the town unable to relieve all the sufferers; therefore prayed the Assembly to grant them relief. Upon which a committee was appointed; and an order given the pay table on the Treasurer in favor of the selectmen, for the sum of £250, to be used for the immediate relief of such persons as could not subsist without such relief."

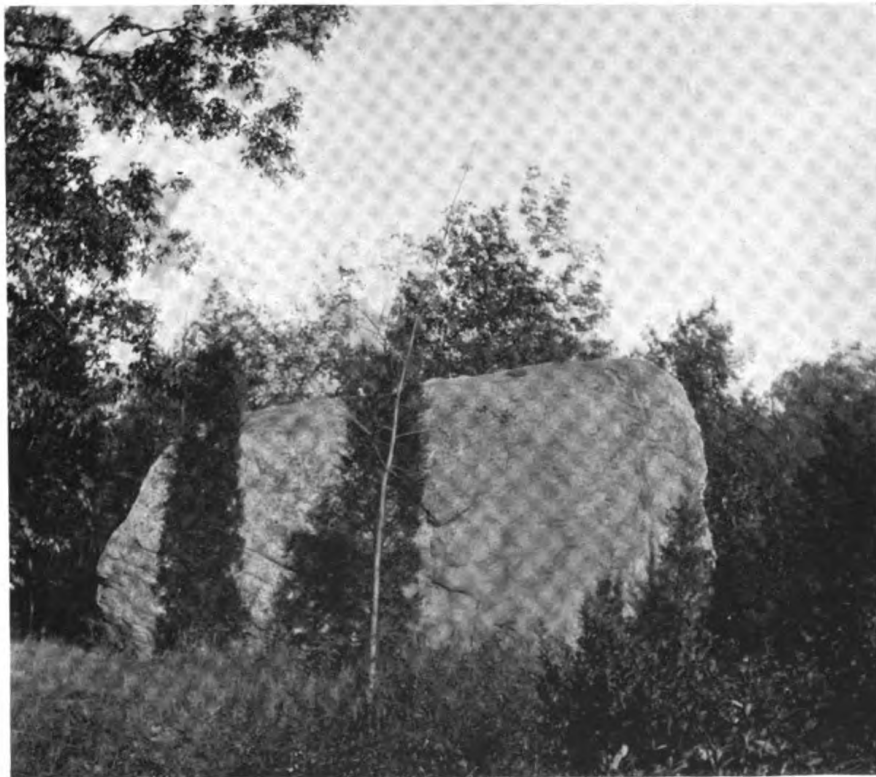
"In the year, 1777, Increase Mosely, Col. Nehemiah Beardsely and Lemuel Sanford, Esq., were appointed a committee to estimate the losses of the inhabitants of Ridgefield, by the incursion of the enemy on their return from Danbury, as they passed through said Ridgefield, where they burned several dwelling houses and other buildings, and took with them many of their cattle, plundered their provisions and clothing, &c. The committee repaired to Ridgefield on the 1st day of December, 1777, (after having notified said sufferers) and held several days' sessions, examining the accounts of the sufferers on oath, and reported the names of the sufferers, and the amount of loss sustained by each; the full amount of which was £2,625, 1sh., 8d., which report was accepted by the Assembly, and ordered lodged on file, for the purpose of perpetuating the evidence of such persons' loss, the more easily to make their claims, whenever Congress should order a compensation to said sufferers."

The Assembly in 1792 deducted the sums advanced already to Ridgefield and the net balances were allowed. The losses as filed in 1792 were £1,730, 1 sh., 10 d.

During General Putnam's stay at Redding in the winter of 1779, two persons were executed; one a soldier who was shot for desertion, and the other, Edward Jones, a butcher,



RESIDENCE OF PROFESSOR FREDERIC DIELMAN
Skirmishes with British out-flanking parties occurred at this point.



BOULDER NEAR RESIDENCE OF PROFESSOR FREDERIC DIELMAN.
A wounded British soldier was found in the shelter of this rock.

from Ridgefield, who was hung as a spy. The latter protested his innocence with his last breath.

"George Follet of Ridgefield was committed to the gaol in Hartford as a Tory. He was liberated from said gaol by paying all costs, and taking the oath of fidelity."

A Liberty Pole, erected by the patriots in Ridgebury at the beginning of the War, was cut down in the night by the Tories. Another was erected and filled with spikes, nails, old slugs, to protect it from the axe and saw. About 1860 the butt of the pole was dug up by William M. Lynes. It contained several spikes. This pole stood on the triangle, near the site of the old Episcopal Church.

In the spring of 1779, Major General Samuel H. Parsons with his brigade encamped in Ridgefield on the way from Putnam's Headquarters in Redding to the Hudson. The brigade camped for the night along West Lane, their encampment probably extending as far as the present grounds of Mrs. F. E. Lewis. The following order was issued by General Parsons while in Ridgefield:

"Ridgefield, May 30th, 1779.

"That Col. Wyllys furnished a Sergt. Corp. and 12 privates to be posted as a Guard this Night one quarter of a mile in front of where his Regt. is quartered on the road leading to Bedford. That Col. Meigs furnish a Guard of the same Number and Distance on the road leading to Norwalk. The Reveille to be beat tomorrow morning at the Dawn of Day, the troops to parade at 4 o'clock half a mile below the meeting house, on the road leading to Bedford, for which place they will march immediately after in the same order as this day."

The brigade left Ridgefield on the morning of the 31st, and arrived in Bedford the same day.



LE DUC DE LAUZUN (1788)

Commander of the French Hussars, a part of the army of Count de Rochambeau which camped in Ridgebury on their march from Newport to the Hudson River.

CHAPTER XIII

THE FRENCH TROOPS

On July 1st, 1781, Ridgefield was visited by an entirely different body of troops than those under General Tryon. They were none other than the flower and chivalry of the French Army under the command of Count de Rochambeau*. They arrived in Ridgebury, in the northern part

Jean Baptiste Donatien de Vimeur, the count de Rochambeau, was born at Vendome July 1st, 1725. He entered the French army at the age of sixteen years. In 1746 he was on the staff of the Duke of Orleans, and soon after was appointed to the command of the regiment of La Marche. He narrowly escaped death during the French Revolution. He was a prisoner and as he was about to enter the cart that was loaded with other prisoners, the guard restrained him with the remark that the cart was full and that there would be room for him in the next. This was the last lot that was taken to the guillotine, and so de Rochambeau was spared. In 1803 Napoleon Bonaparte granted him a pension and the cross of the Legion of Honor. He died May 12, 1807, at the Chateau in the little hamlet which bears his name near the village of Thore. It is fitting to give the inscription upon his monument:

HERE LIES

JEAN BAPTISTE DONATIEN DE VIMEUR, MARECHAL DE
ROCHAMBEAU,

Born July 1, 1725, Died May 12, 1807,

COMMENCED HIS MILITARY CAREER IN 1741, AT THE AGE OF
16 YEARS.

FROM 1741 to 1748

LA BOHEME, LA BEVIERE, L'ALSACE, LE BRISGAU,
LE BRABANT (RAMOUX) SAW HIS ZEAL FLAME,
HIS BLOOD FLOW, AND HIS TALENTS FORM.

FROM 1756 to 1762

HE DISTINGUISHED HIMSELF AMONG THE CONQUERORS OF
MAHON. PASSING INTO GERMANY HE WAS DETACHED WITH
FOUR THOUSAND MEN TOWARDS HALBERSTA. HE MADE
HIMSELF MASTER OF THE FORTRESS OF REGEUNSTEIN, TOOK
14 CANNONS,

TOOK A PRUSSIAN GARRISON PRISONER,
COVERED THE MARCH OF THE ARMY AFTER THE BATTLE OF
CREWELD,
EXPLOITED EVERY ADVANTAGE IN THE TIME OF DISASTER,
STOOD OUT AT MINDEN, MUNDEN, CORBACH, CLOSTERCAMP,
GRINBERG, FELINGAUSEN, COVERING THE RETREATS OR
DECIDING THE VICTORIES.

(129)

of our township, on Sunday afternoon, coming here from Newtown. The camp in Ridgebury was the eleventh on their march from Newport to the Hudson.

In 1780, the French Government sent over to the United States to assist them in establishing their independence, a corps of troops of twelve thousand men in two divisions. The Count de Rochambeau accepted the command despite the fact that he was ill at the time. The first of these divisions sailed from Brest under Admiral de Ternay on May 2nd, 1780, and arrived in New England waters sixty-nine days later. The French troops landed at Newport, Rhode Island, July 11th, 1780.

In the latter part of May, 1781, after a conference with Washington at Wethersfield, Connecticut, preparations for the march to the Hudson were made by Rochambeau. The first troops left Newport June 10th, 1781. It is not the purpose of the author to describe their march in detail, but it will be of interest to note their camping places as they passed through Connecticut. The second camp was at Coventry, Rhode Island. Connecticut was entered on June 20th, the third camp of the march being at Plainfield. Windham, Bolton, Hartford, Farmington, Southington, and Middlebury were the sites of the camps in the order named. Leaving Middlebury, the troops passed through Woodbury and Southbury, fording the Housatonic River near the site of the former Bennett's

FROM 1780 to 1782

HE TOOK THE FRENCH ARMY TO THE AID OF THE AMERICANS,
CAPTURED YORKTOWN,
ASSURED THE INDEPENDENCE OF AMERICA,
WAS THE INTIMATE FRIEND OF WASHINGTON.

IN 1790

HE WAS MADE MARECHAL OF FRANCE, AND WAS SENT TO
COMMAND THE ARMY OF FLANDERS
BUT THE EVER INCREASING ANARCHY MADE HIM LOSE HOPE
OF BEING ANY FURTHER USE TO THE PATRIE.
AFTER FIFTY YEARS OF GLORIOUS SERVICES
HE RETURNED TO THE BOSOM OF HIS FAMILY
TO CLOSE HIS LIFE
IN THE EXERCISE OF ALL THE VIRTUES.



PORTRAIT OF COUNT de ROCHAMBEAU by RAYNAUD
*This portrait was painted some years before he came to America. It is now
at the Chateau Rochambeau.*

Bridge, and camped that night along the flat and hillside west of Newtown Street. They left Newtown Sunday morning, July 1st, and arrived at Ridgebury the afternoon of the same day. They passed through Danbury leaving that place by way of West Wooster Street and Hull's Hill. They dragged their artillery wagons and carts over Miry Brook, following the same route as Tryon four years before. That route led them past the Norris homestead, just over the line in Ridgefield. Here the officers stopped for a drink of water from the well which is still used, being in the rear of the present homestead, still occupied by this family.* A son was born in the family that morning, and when told of the event Rochambeau requested that he be called de Lauzun, in honor of his illustrious aide. This name has been handed down through succeeding generations in that family and their collateral relatives.

Let us picture that sight when four thousand eight hundred French troops entered this little village one hundred and forty-six years ago. Resplendent in their brilliant uniforms, their cannon glistening in the bright summer sun, their teams of horses and oxen pulling the artillery and carts, and most of all their kind interest in the inhabitants, — what a cordial welcome was extended to them by the patriots of Ridgebury. And although they spoke a strange tongue, their manner revealed hearts full of sympathy and affection for our ancestors, fighting zealously for their liberty.

The French Army as it passed through our township was composed of four regiments as follows:

- (1) Regiment Bourbonnais
- (2) Regiment Royal Deux-Ponts
- (3) Soissonnais
- (4) Saintonge

*One bottle of vinegar was issued to every five troops. A teaspoonful was put in their drinking water to guard against malaria.

In all there were six hundred cavalry, six hundred artillery and three thousand six hundred infantry. Included in the above were the Hussars under De Lauzun.* The Legion of De Lauzun was composed of three hundred horse and three hundred light infantry.† With De Lauzun were Count Arthur Dillon and his brother, Colonel O'Brion, Captain O'Moran and Captain Lynch. The Bourbons were commanded by Count de Rochambeau and Major General the Marquis de Chastellux.‡ The latter was afterward one of the forty members of the French Academy, elected to that select body after his return from America. The Royal Deux-Ponts were commanded by Baron de Viomenil§, and the Soissonnais by his brother,

*Duke de Lauzun is described as being very accomplished; a man of personal beauty, talents, wit, wealth and bravery. The history of his life tells us that these good qualities "were the passport to the friendship of men who abhorred his profligacy." His conduct in America made him very popular. In 1792, he accompanied Tallyrand on a mission to England where he made the friendship of the Prince of Wales, afterwards George IV. Upon the death of his uncle, Duke de Biron, Lauzun succeeded to the title. During the French Revolution he suffered death by the guillotine, on September 31st, 1793.

†Other members of the Dillon family with Rochambeau were Lieutenant-Colonel Bartholomew Dillon, Lieutenant Morris Dillon and *Colonel-en-seconde* Theobald Dillon.

‡Francis John, Marquis de Chastellux, major general with Rochambeau, wrote a journal while in America, concerning not only the activities of the French troops but also upon his travels through the Colony. On his return to France, he was made field marshal. In 1787, he married a relative of the Duke of Orleans. General de Chastellux died in 1793. His fortune and that of his wife appear to have been lost during the French Revolution for in 1795 his widow made application to Washington asking for an allowance from our government for herself and her infant son on account of the services that her husband had rendered to the United States during the Revolution. The application for the pension was not granted.

§Antoine Charles du Houx, Baron de Vioménil, was born at Vosges, France, November 3rd, 1728. He died at Paris, November 9th, 1792. At the age of twelve he entered the army, and served in Holland and Hanover. In 1762, at the age of thirty-four, he became a Brigadier-General, and commanded a regiment in the Corsican Campaign of 1768-1769. In 1770, he was promoted to Major-General, and served in Poland. He was appointed second in command of the French army under Rochambeau in the United States during the Revolutionary War. For his gallantry at Yorktown, Virginia, he won the Grand Cross of the Legion of Honor, and was appointed Lieutenant-General. After his return to France, he was appointed Governor of La Rochelle, which position he held from 1783-1789. While defending Louis XVI during the attack on the Tuileries in 1792, Baron de Vioménil received injuries from which he died.



LE DUC DE LAUZUN,
in uniform of the Hussars.

Count de Vioménil. The Count de Custine commanded the Saintonge. Besides the above, officers of the French aristocracy accompanied the army. Among these were Vicomte de Noailles; Count Guillaume de Deux-Ponts, Lieutenant Colonel of the Royal Deux-Ponts; the Commissary General-in-Chief Claude Blanchard; Prince de Broglie; Colonel Félix de St. Maime of the Soissonnais, and Count Ségur, second Colonel of the same regiment. Count Ségur was an uncle of General Lafayette.

Count de Custine, Count Arthur Dillon and one of his brothers were put to death by the guillotine in the French Revolution, which fate was also destined for the brilliant De Lauzun. Captain O'Moran who served under Count Dillon in America suffered death in a like manner.

The officers accompanied their men on foot nearly the entire journey from Newport to the Hudson River.

The brilliant passage of the French Brigades and Lauzun's Hussars through our township will probably never be equalled in splendor. With their bands playing and troops gaily and richly uniformed in a variety of harmonious colors, it was a happy day to those who were fortunate enough to be along the line of march. The uniform of the Bourbonnais was black and red; Saintonge white and green; Royal Deux-Ponts was white. The regiment of the Soissonnais was particularly striking, with rose colored facings to their coats, and grenadier caps adorned with white and rose colored plumes. The artillery was attired in blue with red facings, white spatter dashes, and red pompons.

On the march across our state the Connecticut farmers

*Adam Philip, Count de Custine was born at Metz in 1740. In his youth he entered the army and served under Frederick the Great of Prussia during the Seven Years War. As one of the regimental commanders under Count de Rochambeau, his services were of great value to America in the Revolution. Soon after his return to France from America, he was made Governor of Toulon. In 1792, while commanding the Army of the Rhine, he was suddenly called to Paris by the Terrorists and his brilliant life was brought to a close by the guillotine. He was executed August, 1793, at the age of fifty-three years.

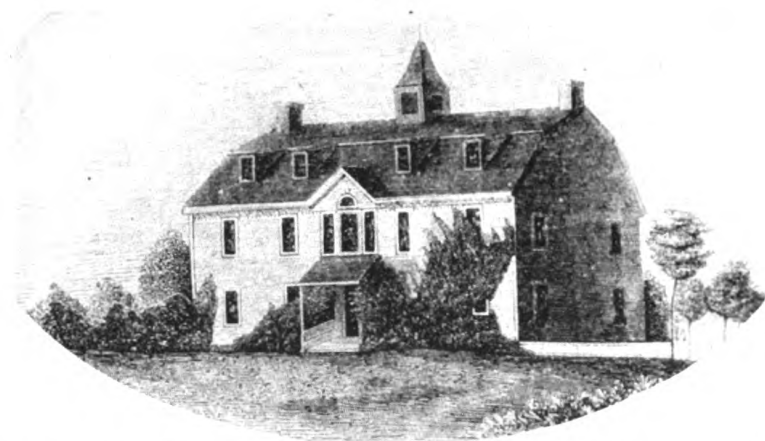
showed eager hospitality toward the foreign soldiers. New cider was furnished them free of charge while they were en route, and many farmers with teams helped them along the way, lightening the work of the oxen and horses of the French by using their own. The carts were usually drawn by two yoke of oxen with a horse hitched ahead of the oxen.

Thomas Boughton of Ridgebury, at that time a very young man, joined the French army, enlisting as a teamster. He was present with the French troops at the surrender of Cornwallis at Yorktown, and accompanied them on their return.*

In Ridgebury there were two encampments. The main body of troops camped upon the ridge east of the Congregational Church, on the north side of the highway leading to Danbury. The other division made its camp on the hill opposite the school house about a mile south of the church. This second camp was located just west of the present home of Samuel A. Coe. Mr. Coe had a relative with Rochambeau. The pay carts heavily loaded with specie were stationed under a heavy guard in front of the residence of Daniel Coley, one of the leading citizens of Ridgefield in his time, a strong and active patriot, and a soldier in the Revolution. This place is known at the present time as the Weed farm. It was the home soon after the Revolution of Benjamin Lynes, himself a soldier in that war. The gold and silver money was packed in little kegs.

This second camp was, in the opinion of the author, the camp site of the Chevalier de Lauzun and his men. It appears from tradition and history to be a matter of fact. One historian states that "on July 2nd Lauzun left his encampment at Ridgefield as he marched hurriedly for East Chester, N. Y."

*After his arrival on the Hudson, Count De Rochambeau loaned twenty thousand hard dollars to the government to assist in financing the campaign against Cornwallis at Yorktown.



ACADEMY, SALEM CENTER, NEW YORK. (TOWN OF NORTH SALEM).

This edifice was erected between the years 1770 and 1775, by Stephen deLancey one of the principal proprietors of North Salem. It was intended for his own residence, but was never used as such, as he removed from the town. In 1786, it was purchased by a Company and completed as an Academy.

The troops at this second camp visited the large springs in the rear of the residence of Mr. Coe. These springs were used in conjunction with a tannery which was at one time operated by Captain Henry Whitney, the owner and occupant of the place at that time. The springs were dipped out, and the soldiers procured a very large quantity of frogs and were thus able to gratify their natural taste for this delicacy.

Ensign Samuel Keeler conducted the tavern in Ridgebury Street which stood near the church. The French officers were quartered here. General Washington, accompanied by General Knox, had stopped at this tavern on his trip to Hartford from the Hudson River on the preceding September. This trip was made for the purpose of meeting Count de Rochambeau, who journeyed from Newport to Hartford for the interview. It was a coincidence that the date of the arrival of the French troops in Ridgebury was on Count de Rochambeau's fifty-sixth birthday. One can imagine that a glorious birthday party was held that night at the old tavern.

History gives us the names of the French Chaplains who were with de Rochambeau. They were as follows: Reverend Fathers Robin, Gluson, Lacy and St. Pierre. Undoubtedly the first Mass celebrated in Ridgefield was on July 2nd, 1781. To Abbe Claude Robin, Chaplain of the Soissonnais Regiment, we are greatly indebted for much detail in regard to the march of the French Army on its journey to Yorktown and return. Also we are indebted to de Closen, aide to Rochambeau, who kept a most complete diary of the expedition.

On the return march from Yorktown, the French did not camp in Ridgebury, but made their stop that night in Danbury, which Commissary Blanchard said reminded him of Pégou, near Angers, in France. On this return trip, camp was made at Salem Center, near the Old Academy. This was camp number thirty-nine. The officers occupied

the old Academy, while the troops were camped in the fields along the roadside and the flat in the rear of the building.

The camp in Danbury was the fortieth. The exact stopping place of the French is that section formerly known as Plum Meadow Grove, which covered the present site of the Old Catholic Cemetery, extending along South Street and Shelter Rock Road towards the upper end of Shelter Rock Mountain. Part of the camp extended along the banks of the Simpaug River. The Danbury and Norwalk Railroad runs through the old camp location. While in Danbury Count de Rochambeau was entertained by Colonel Joseph P. Cooke.

There are no signs of the French Camps in Ridgebury at the present time. The land has been plowed and cultivated for over a century and all traces have disappeared.

CHAPTER XIV

RIDGEFIELD MEN IN THE REVOLUTION

Immediately after the Battle of Bunker Hill, eight regiments were raised in the state of Connecticut by act of Legislature, April-May, 1775. Major-General Wooster was the commander. The Fifth Regiment, which was mainly recruited in Fairfield County, was commanded by Colonel David Waterbury of Stamford.

This was the first call for troops, and Captain Ichabod Doolittle of Ridgebury District organized the 7th Company of the 5th Regiment, his commission bearing the date of May 1, 1775.

A partial description of this company is given:

Captain Ichabod Doolittle's Company
7th Company, 5th Regiment, Continental Line,
Col. David Waterbury

Service around New York City under General Wooster. Then north around Lake Champlain and Lake George, and the siege of St. John, Province of Quebec, until October.

A list of Ridgefield men in this company is given.

Captain Ichabod Doolittle — commissioned May 1st, 1775,
Disch. Nov. 4, 1775

Lieutenant Thaddeus Rockwell — commissioned May 1st,
1775, Disch. Sept. 15, 1775

Sergeant Henry Whitney	Private Stephen Remington
Sergeant Thaddeus Sturges	Private Jacob Resseguie
Sergeant Thomas St. John	Private Thomas Stebbins
Corporal Matthew Northrup	Private John Joyce
Private Gamaliel Osborn	Private Matthew Mead
Private Eliphaz Nickerson	Private John Street
Private Sylvanus Seeley	

Much sickness prevailed among the troops and the greater part were discharged. Captain Doolittle was discharged November 4th, 1775. General Wooster enlisted a provisional regiment for service from December, 1775, until the spring of 1776. About one hundred and fifty men enlisted from various regiments. As stated elsewhere, Hezekiah Hawley and Jedediah Hull were among the number. The 6th company of the 5th Regiment was recruited almost entirely from Danbury, under Captain Noble Benedict. Enoch Crosby, the hero of that great novel, "The Spy," by J. Fenimore Cooper, was a member of this company.*

In 1776 Captain Gamaliel Northrup of Ridgebury raised a company, the muster-roll of which is as follows:

Captain Gamaliel Northrup	Abraham Betts
1st Lieut. James Betts	Dennis Collins
2nd Lieut. John St. John	Ammon Craw
Ensign Ebenezer Olmsted	Moses Gilbert
Sergt. Thaddeus Keeler	Barnabas Hamlin
Sergt. Aaron Comstock	David Hall
John Joyce, Drummer	Jared Hine
Samuel DeForest, Fifer	Newton Hine
Seth Baker	Samuel Holmes
Gamaliel Benedict	David Hoyt
Stephen Beers	Seth Hubbell
John Bennett	Joseph Jackson
Trowbridge Bennett	Reuben Jackson

*After the Revolution, Enoch Crosby and his brother Benjamin, purchased a farm in the town of Southeast, New York, where he lived the remainder of his life. He was a deacon in the old Gilead Church. His tombstone near the northwest corner of the old Gilead burying ground is inscribed as follows:

IN MEMORY OF
ENOCH CROSBY

Who Died June 26, 1835

Aged 85 years 5 months and 21 days.

Hundreds of people visit his grave every year.

Thomas Jervis	Isaac Olmsted
Aaron Keeler	Jeremiah Olmsted
Jabez Keeler	Bartholomew Parsons
Levi Keeler	Stephen Remington
Lockwood Keeler	Silas Rockwell
Uriah Keeler	William Scott
Sergt. Gamaliel Osborn	Asa Scribner
Sergt. Salmon Hubbell	Phineas Sherwood
Corp. Benajah Northrop	Nathaniel Sterling
Corp. Alvin Hyatt	Albert Stuart
Corp. John Thomas	Josiah Taylor
Corp. William Lee	Joseph Trowbridge
Elijah Kellogg	Peter Tuttle
David Lavake	Eleazer Waterous
Jeremiah Mead	Israel White
Matthew Mead	Hezekiah Whitlock
James Nichols	Ezekiel Whitney
Nathaniel Northrop	Thomas Woodbridge
Enoch Olmsted	

A large portion of this company was from Ridgebury, but many of the soldiers were from the different sections of the township. This company, the Sixth Company, First Battalion Wadsworth Brigade, served on the front of Brooklyn before and during the Battle of Long Island in 1776. It was then stationed under General Putnam in New York City and narrowly escaped capture in its retreat from the city. This company was posted on Harlem Heights until the Battle of White Plains, October 28th, 1776, in which it fought and suffered considerable loss. The term for which the members enlisted expired December 25th, 1776, and many of them re-enlisted in the "Connecticut Line."

The First Militia Company of Ridgefield was drafted in April, 1777, by Captain Ebenezer Jones, and a copy of the draft is as follows:

"To the Honorable General Assembly of the State of Connecticut at their Sessions in May A. D. 1777.

"May it please your Honours;

"Agreeable to & in pursuance of a Resolve & Proclamation of ye Honorable Governor & Council of this State Dated April 12th, A. D., 1777, received y^e 19th, Instant, y^e Commission Officers in y^e first military Company in Ridgefield met, & together with y^e Assistance & advice of y^e Authority & Selectmen of s^d Ridgefield, found that there were wanting & deficient within y^e Limits of s^d Company according to y^e stating lately sent out, seventeen Men, we then proceeded to Class the men in y^e limits of s^d Company agreeable to s^d resolve, & enrolled them. I then gave Orders to s^d Men to be Convened on y^e 20th Inst. & being met I earnestly invited them to Inlist into the Continental Service, & gave Notice of s^d Classing, & there were Sixteen Divisions, & failed (after Three days time) to procure a man to Inlist into s^d Service and having received notice from y^e Several Classes Respectively; of their having failed to procure I then proceeded with y^e advice of my Subaltern Officers to detach One man for s^d service, from each of y^e failing Classes, & did detach on the 23^d Instant the following persons by name, Uriel Lobdell, Abraham Betts, 2^d, Alexander Resigue 2^d, Ebenezer Hoyt, Samuel Fairbanks, Isaac Bennett, Seth Lee, Seth Bouton Hezekiah Smith, John Baldwin, Michael Warren, Robert Whitlock, Thomas Sagur, Thomas Hyatt, Samuel Smith 3rd, & Philip Keeler; I then gave immediate Notice of y^e names of y^e persons detached to y^e Nearest Officer in the Continental Service belonging to this State, that was deficient in his Number of men.

"EBENEZER JONES, Capt. of y^e 1st Ridgefield, April 24th, A. D. 1777. Military Camp in Ridgefield."

The list of Revolutionary Soldiers from Ridgefield gives the names of several other members of this Company.

Captain David Olmsted of Ridgefield was in command of at least three different companies during the Revolution. In the summer of 1778 he marched to the Hudson River, where he served with his company in "Colonel Roger Enos' Regiment on the Hudson" at West Point

and vicinity. The roster of his regiment is given. A large number of this company were from Ridgefield.

Captain David Olmsted, arrived in camp June 3, 1778

1st Lieut. Lewis Mills, arrived in camp June 3, 1778

2nd Lieut. Edward Collins, arrived in camp June 27, 1778

Ensign Silas Hubbell, arrived in camp July 6, 1778

Sergt.-Major Edward Tyler, discharged Sept 1, 1778

Sergt. Abijah Bennedict, discharged Sept. 1, 1778

Sergt. Thomas Avery, discharged Sept. 1, 1778

Sergt. Samuel Hawley, discharged Sept. 1, 1778

Sergt. Seth Crawford, discharged Sept. 1, 1778

Corp. Crag Celley

Corp. Benjamin Brownson

Corp. John Berrey

Corp. Eben Judson

Josiah Edwards, Drummer

Bartlett Chamberlain, Fifer

David Allen, Private, discharged September 1st with the rest of the company.

Truman Beeman

Daniel Beebe

Cyrus Berrey

Barnabas Berrey

John Bennet

Edward Blackman

Samuel Botsford

Richard China

Abel Comstock (Comstick)

Aaron Case

Heaman Comstock
(Comstick)

Levy Camp

Israel Chapman

Licander Curtis

Joel Engersoll

Benjamin Fowler

Abel Fuller

John Foote

James Frisbie

John Gilbard

John Geer

William Hucker

Weight Hurlbut

Justice Hinman

Talcott Hawley

Samuel Hunt

William Heckter

Gilead Heckter

Peter Hines

Timothy Johnson

Matthew Keeler

Lewis Keeler

James Lyn

James Lincoln	Newcomb Raymond
Ebenezer Lyon	Enoch Simons
David Morris	Curtis Stoddard
Uriah Marvin	Azariah Smith
Samuel Nichols	Deliverance Slawson
Jonathan Nash	Peres Sturdivant
Stephen Peck	Benjamin Sackett
Abel Peck	Nathaniel Spooner
Oliver Parrish	Ely Smith
Benjamin Porter	Nirum Summers
William Rockwell	William Tanner
Silas Rockwell	Reuben Taylor
Levi Rust	David Walker
Joshua Raymond	Solomon Warner

From the Connecticut Archives, Revolutionary War, we find that Talcott Hawley petitions that he enlisted under the age of fifteen years and served two campaigns, 1777 and 1778, under Captain David Olmsted.

Jonathan Berry, or John, as the name appears on the roster of this company, died at West Point. He enlisted from the town of Kent.

In October 1778, Captain John Yates and Captain David Olmsted of Colonel Enos' Regiment were ordered to march with their companies for the defense of Greenwich and adjacent territory.

Colonel Nehemiah Beardsley's return May, 1779, contains the following roll of Captain David Olmsted's Company of Ridgefield:

Stephen Remington	Bartholomew Baker
Nehemiah Olmsted	Jeremiah Keeler
Jeremiah Olmsted	Silvanus Seeley
Joseph Jackson	Benj ⁿ Bennit
Jeremiah Dean	Hezekiah Hawley
Derias Benedict	Jeremiah Osborn
Levi Keeler	John Hitchcock

Thomas Wasson	Charles White
James Barns	Solomon Brown
John Hays	Tho ^a Hutchison
Benj ^m Downs	Lucus Brown
Joseph Shaw	James Stanton
W ^m Platt	

The pay roll for horse travel of Captain David Olmsted's Company from Ridgefield in Colonel Nehemiah Beardsley's regiment whilst on alarm at Fairfield is as follows:

David Olmsted, Captain	Nathan Smith
Job Smith, Lieutenant	Ezra Mead
Jared Smith, Ensign	Matthew Olmsted
Abijah Benedict, Sergt.	Robert Wilson
James Scott, Sergt.	Jesse Benedict
Jacob Nash, Sergt.	Hial Morris
Ebenezer Hauley, Clerk	Nathan Kellogg
John Benedict, Corp.	Josiah Osburn
Trowbridge Bennett, Corp.	Gamaliel Benedict
Nathan Hoyt, Corp.	Matthew Keeler
Ezra Nash	Jonathan Nash
Benjamin Keeler	Jeremiah Dauchy
John Gilbert	Josiah Northrop
Jonathan Hoyt	Abijah Seymour
Alexander Resseguie	James Follett

Jacob Nash was killed at Norwalk, July 11th, 1779, when Tryon burned the town, and is buried in Titicus.

It will be noted that the rosters of the last two companies are filled with names from the old families of Ridgefield. David Olmsted was appointed a captain in the 4th Brigade, November, 1780. He was also among the number of captains in regiments to be raised to march, if called by General Washington, May, 1782.

Unknown Regiment. Colonel Nehemiah Beardsley's return, May, 1779, Connecticut Line:

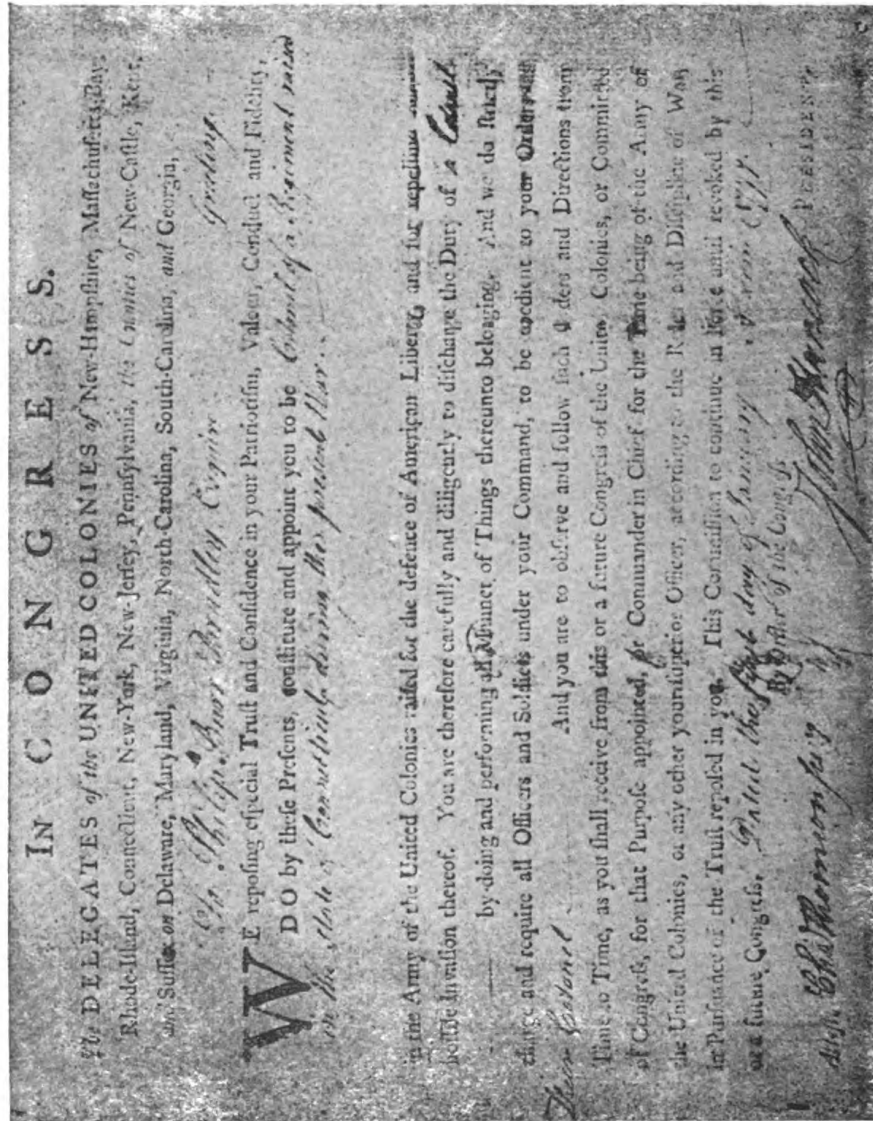
Captain Jonah Foster, Ridgefield	Ruben Craw Ammon Craw
Joseph Sears	John Condrick (Condray)
John Roberts	Lewis Jacklin
Joseph Smith	Daniel Riggs
Gilbert Brush	Elisha Perry
Elisha Lincoln	
Captain Knowles Sears, Ridgefield	Daniel Canfield William Mitchell
Sergt. John Street	John Butler
Thomas Whitney	Barrack Nickerson
Ezekiel Whitney	Elijah Weed
Micajah Weeks	—— Keeler
Eliphaz Nickerson	William Dodge
Solomon Wran (Ran)	
Captain Isaac Hine, Ridgefield	Micajah Weeks Thomas Wason
Nehemiah Sherwood	William Mitchell
Mical Frank (identity unknown)	James Barnes
Daniel Osburn	William Newton
Sergt. Elisha Gilbert	John Hays
Thomas Seager	John Butler
Abraham Resseguie	Henry Williams
William Cummins	Peter Kelue (name unknown — evidently misspelled)
John Hitchcock	

Captain Isaac Hine's Company, in Colonel Nehemiah Beardsley's Regiment:

Militia in y^e State of Connecticut for Horse Travil in Alarm to Fairfield, Bedford & Norwalk.

Dated Ridgefield, July, 1779.

Men's Names	Miles Travil	Men's Names	Miles Travil
Captain Isaac Hine	20	Robert Edmond	20
Lieut. David Scott	20	Ebenezer Price	20
Ensign John Keeler	20	John Benedict	20
Clerk James Rockwell	20	Samuel Fairbanks	20
Serj. Abram Nash	20	David Olmsted, 2nd	—
Serj. Hugh Cane	20	Stephen Hard	10
Sergt. Samuel Olmsted	20	Aaron Northrop	10
Sejt. James Resseguie	20	Timothy Keeler	10
Corpl. Samuel Smith	20	Ezekiel Wilson	10
Corpl. Daniel Smith	20	Seth Lee	—
Corporal Gabriel		Aaron Hull	20
Bennett	10	Thadeus Sturgis	20
David Hoyt	20	James Lusey	—
Jacob Smith 2nd	20	Ebenezer Jones	—
Thomas Hawley	—	Silas Hull [not Hall]	10
Daniel Olmsted	20	Benjamin Smith	10
Jehial Bouton	20	Timothy Keeler, 2nd	20
David St. John	20	Gideon Scott	20
Daniel Kellogg	—	John Baldwin	10
Amos Baker	20	Daniel Dean	20
Theodore Rockwell	20	Elijah Weed	10
Benjamin Sherwood	20	John Morris	20
Joseph Stebbins	10		



FIRST COMMISSION OF COLONEL PHILIP BURR BRADLEY.

CHAPTER XV

INDIVIDUAL RECORDS OF REVOLUTIONARY SOLDIERS

Among the sons of Ridgefield who fought for the independence of their country, there are many who stand forth conspicuously for their virtue, bravery and lofty patriotism.

Among these is Colonel Philip Burr Bradley, the foremost and most prominent soldier of our town in the days of the Revolution. He was born in Fairfield, March 26, 1738. He was the son of Captain Daniel Bradley and Esther Burr, the latter being the sister of Reverend Aaron Burr, the first president of Princeton College and the father of Aaron Burr, Vice-President of the United States.

Philip Burr Bradley graduated from Yale College in 1758, and with his parents came to Ridgefield in 1759. In 1770, King George the Third appointed him a Justice of the Peace. In 1769, he was elected to the State Legislature, in which position he served for nineteen years, his last term being in 1791. January 18th, 1777, he was commissioned a Colonel by John Hancock, President of the Continental Congress. Previous to his appointment as Colonel, he was Lieutenant-Colonel in Colonel Waterbury's regiment, and in the latter part of 1776 was Colonel of a Battalion (probably the 7th) in the Brigade commanded by General James Wadsworth of Durham, Connecticut.

The battalion under Colonel Bradley's command saw much service, and was stationed the greater part of the summer and early fall of 1776 at Bergen and Paulus Hook (now Jersey City). In October, the battalion moved up the Hudson to the vicinity of Fort Lee, which at that time was under the command of General Nathaniel Greene.

The greater part of the battalion assisted in defending Fort Washington, and, with the entire garrison, was captured November 16th. Colonel Bradley was absent on sick leave at this time, and thus escaped.

Colonel Bradley, with a portion of his men, was at the Battle of Ridgefield during Tryon's raid. The Fifth Regiment of which he was colonel until January 1st, 1781, had its rendezvous early in 1777 at Danbury, and in the spring of 1777 went into Camp at Peekskill. This regiment fought at the battle of Germantown, October 4th, 1777, and suffered considerable loss in this engagement. The Regiment was then assigned to General Huntington's Brigade and wintered at the memorable camp at Valley Forge. On June 28th, 1778, the Fifth Regiment was present at the Battle of Monmouth, and later went into camp with the main army at White Plains. In the winter of 1778 to 1779 it wintered at Redding at General Putnam's headquarters, now the state park known as Putnam Park. In the spring of 1779, it served in General Heath's army, which was stationed on the east side of the Hudson. A Light Company, under the command of Captain John St. John of Ridgefield, was detached from the regiment to the storming of Stony Point. The assault was at midnight, July 15th, and four hundred Connecticut men formed a part of General Anthony Wayne's right column. Colonel Bradley's regiment wintered at Morristown, 1779-1780. They suffered intensely from the cold, huts being their only shelter.

In the Spring of 1780, it served on both sides of the Hudson and in the winter of 1780 to 1781 wintered at "Connecticut Village," opposite West Point.*

*Connecticut Village was just back of Constitution Island, opposite West Point, about one mile and a half from the Hudson River and not far from the main road. It is described as lying between two high mountains, and advantageously situated. One or two of the Connecticut officers, however, speak of it as being a primitive spot and quite out of the world. Here the soldiers built good huts, and a Division Assembly Room, and the cantonment became known as Connecticut village. The huts, according to orders of General Samuel Parsons "must be carried up square, not less than six feet high, and the Rafters nine feet long from the eaves to the Ridge Pole."

The following is a copy of the second commission of Colonel Philip Burr Bradley:

"The United States of America in Congress Assembled

"To Philip B. Bradley, Esquire, Greeting. We, Reposing especial trust and confidence in your Patriotism, Valour, Conduct and Fidelity DO by these presents constitute and appoint you to be 'Colonel' of the fifth Connecticut Regiment in the Army of the United States, to take rank as such from the first day of January, A. D., 1777; You are therefore carefully and diligently to discharge the duty of 'Colonel' by doing and performing of manner and things thereunto belonging. And we do strictly charge and require all Officers and Soldiers, under your command, to be obedient to your orders, as 'Colonel'. And you are to observe and follow such orders and directions, from time to time, as you shall receive from this or a future Congress of the United States, or Committee of Congress for that purpose appointed, a Committee of the United States, or any other your Superior officer, according to the rules and discipline of War, in pursuance of the trust reposed in you. This Commission to continue in force, until revoked by this, or a future Congress, the Committee of Congress before mentioned, or a Committee of the States.

"Witness His Excellency John Jay, Esquire, President of the Congress of the United States of America at Philadelphia, the sixteenth day of March, 1779 and in the third year of our independence.

Seal

"JOHN JAY.

"Entered in the War Office and examined by the board.

"Attest E. Scull, Secretary of the Board of War."

After the war, Colonel Bradley was appointed first Marshal of the District of Connecticut by President George Washington. He served in this position under both terms of President Washington, and also under President John Adams. Colonel Bradley's house in Ridgefield, on Main Street, is now the summer home of Edward L. Ballard,

and many of the original features of this dwelling have been preserved.

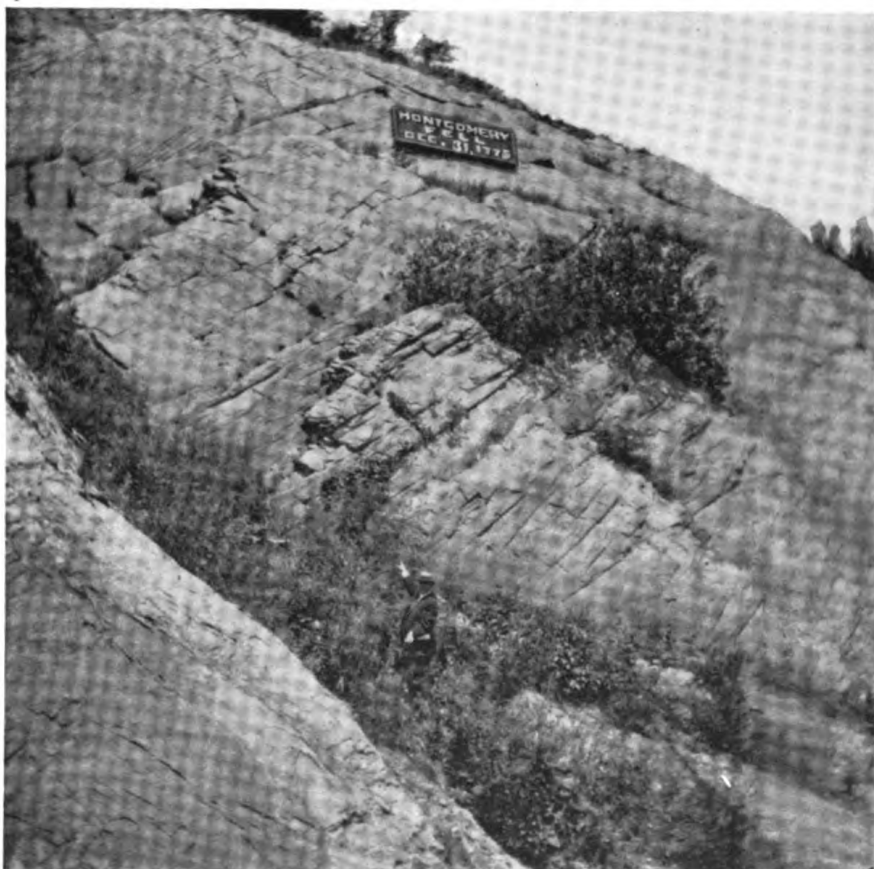
Colonel Bradley's grandson, Judge William Henry Bradley of Chicago, was clerk of the United States Circuit Court for many years.

Judge Bradley's son, William Harrison Bradley, now a resident of Ridgefield, was for many years connected with the Department of State, serving as Consul at Nice, and as Consul-General at Manchester, England. His last post was Consul-General at Montreal, which position he held for many years, until he resigned from the service after a successful and honorable career.

Dr. Amos Baker, who lived at the upper end of Main Street, now the home of Mrs. William A. Gilbert, which is situated upon a portion of the battlefield, was a Surgeon's Mate in Colonel Bradley's Battalion.

Among the other brave men who served from Ridgefield in the Revolution, and whose names deserve to be written boldly in the annals of that war, are the following: Hezekiah Hawley, Thaddeus Keeler, Jeremiah Keeler and Lieutenant Joshua King.

Hezekiah Hawley was a farmer, living in Florida District, owning what is today known as the Downesbury Estate, and other contiguous land. Here he was born, lived and died. He was in the Revolutionary War for seven years, and saw much hard and active service. Twenty-four days after the Battle of Lexington was fought, on May 13th, 1775, at Norwalk, he enlisted in the 5th Regiment, 9th Company, commanded by Captain Nehemiah Beardsley of New Fairfield. He re-enlisted November 17th, under General Wooster. The Brigade joined General Montgomery at Ticonderoga and was at the Capture of St. John, then marched into Montreal with General Montgomery. Hezekiah Hawley fought in the Campaign in Canada. Although the records of our state do not give his name as among those who served in this campaign,



A PORTION OF CAPE DIAMOND, CITY OF QUEBEC.
The sign is upon the spot where General Montgomery was killed December 31, 1775.

it is no mysterious tradition that he played an intensive part and was very active in the assault of the Fortress of Quebec. He was close to General Richard Montgomery when the latter fell upon the walls of this citadel on December 31st, 1775.* Jedediah Hull of Fairfield, whose daughter married Captain Eliphalet Brush of Ridgebury, was also present and close to the commander's side at this time. In one of the campaigns, Hezekiah Hawley has related to his grandchildren that for nine successive days he lived on a half gill of Indian meal a day. On April 30th, 1777, he enlisted "for the War" in Captain Albert Chapman's Company, 7th Regiment, "Connecticut Line." This regiment was recruited from January 1st, 1777, to continue throughout the war, from Fairfield and other counties, and went into the field in the spring of 1777, and suffered some loss. On September 30th, Hezekiah Hawley enlisted in the Company commanded by Captain Humphreys of Derby. This company wintered at Valley Forge and on the 28th of the following June, fought at the Battle of Monmouth. With the exceptions of the campaigns to northern New York and in Canada, the service that Hezekiah Hawley experienced was practically identical with that of Colonel Philip Burr Bradley, as he wintered at Redding after spending the summer in camp at White Plains, and in the winter of 1779 to 1780 was at Morristown. Hezekiah Hawley continued with the army until the end. His

*The picture on the accompanying page is a view of the spot where General Montgomery was killed. This cliff is Cape Diamond, upon whose heights the great citadel of Quebec stands in all its majesty. The street at the foot is Champlain street, well known to the Canadian tourist. It extends westward almost to Wolfe's Cove. A board with the inscription, "HERE MAJOR GENERAL MONTGOMERY FELL, DECEMBER 31ST, 1775", was placed upon the cliff seventy-five years ago. It has been replaced by another reading, "MONTGOMERY FELL DEC. 31ST, 1775." General ARNOLD was wounded while at the north end of what is now Sault au Matelot Street. Like Montgomery, he was at the head of his men when a musket ball struck him in the knee and he was completely disabled. General Arnold was carried to the rear, where he heard of the death of Montgomery. It is a co-incidence that he was leading Colonel Lamb's Artillery at Quebec, the same organization that was present with him at the Battle of Ridgefield in the engagement at the Stebbins' place.

regiment remained in Camp at West Point and vicinity from January 1st, 1783, until early in June, when it was disbanded by order of General Washington, with the greater portion of the Continental Army. While at West Point Mr. Hawley was granted a furlough and walked home the entire distance. He was pensioner under the act of Congress of March 18th, 1818.* He married Ann Jones, cousin to Czar Jones. His eldest son, Ebenezer, served in the war of 1812. After a long and eventful life, Hezekiah Hawley died October 1st, 1826, in the seventieth year of his age, and is buried in the Florida Cemetery.

Jeremiah Keeler was born in Ridgefield, April 4th, 1760, in the present Lannon House on Main Street. This was his home when the British troops passed through the town. He witnessed the engagement at the head of Main Street, and his patriotism was so stirred that he determined to join the Continental Army. May 28th, 1777, only a month and a day after the Ridgefield battle, he enlisted with the patriot forces. Colonel Philip Burr Bradley was very much interested in his career. Jeremiah Keeler was with the Connecticut Line three years. In February, 1780, he was promoted to Corporal. He was selected by Baron Steuben as a member of the Light Infantry commanded by General Lafayette. On July 15th, 1780, he was assigned to the post of Orderly Sergeant by the French General. On account of his bravery, intelligence and excellent judgment, he was often chosen for duty where these characteristics were most essential. He was present at the Battles of Jamestown and Monmouth, and at the siege of Yorktown we read that he was one of the first to scale

*No general pension laws were passed by Congress until March 18th, 1818, when it was provided that survivors of the Revolutionary War who had served nine months or more in the Continental Army or Navy could, under the provisions of the Act, become pensioners of the Government. Prior to that date, relief had been given only to those who had been disabled in the service, or to their widows and children.

the breast-works in the face of a murderous fire. For his gallantry at Yorktown, General Lafayette presented him with a sword. Sergeant Keeler remained with the Army until mustered out in 1783. He walked from Yorktown, after the army was disbanded in Virginia, using his sword as his cane. Before his departure, he was presented with a gold medal for his long and honorable service. The sword and scabbard are in the Ridgefield Library, the scabbard being worn at the bottom through use on the long walk home. Jeremiah Keeler married Huldah Hull, and settled in South Salem, his home being the present farm house at the corner of the road leading to Mill River and New Canaan. Eleven children were born to this worthy couple. Mr. Keeler died in May, 1853, in his ninety-fourth year. He is buried in the Titicus Cemetery, Ridgefield.

Sergeant Keeler's brother, Thaddeus, eight years his senior, also saw much distinguished and hard service. He enlisted as a Sergeant on July 13th, 1775, 4th Company, Captain Joseph Hait, 7th Regiment, commanded by Colonel Charles Webb of Stamford. In 1777 he was commissioned a Second Lieutenant, and in 1778 first Lieutenant, and in 1780 appointed Quarter-Master under Colonel Philip Burr Bradley, which position he held until the close of the war. The following item taken from the New Jersey Archives will be of interest in connection with his army life:

"Stolen out of a stable in Camp near Morristown, on night of the 28th ult., a bright sorrel mare, 4 years old, 14½ hands high, slim build, blaze in her face, dark brown list on her back, shod all around, trots and canters well. Whoever secures the thief shall receive \$500 or \$200 for mare alone, by applying to Lieut. Thaddeus Keeler Quartermaster to 5th Connecticut Regiment at Springfield, or Col. Bradley at Ridgefield, Conn. May 2, 1780."*

*This \$500.00 was worth about \$10.00 in hard money.

Jabez Rockwell of Ridgebury District had a long and honorable service in the Revolution. In the museum at Valley Forge is a powder horn which was given to him by General Washington under very interesting circumstances. While the army was desperately in need of food, a few head of cattle were driven into camp. The demand for horns was so great that General Washington decided the matter by selecting a number between 1500 and 2000, allowing the men an opportunity to guess it. Only one guessed the correct number, 1776; but nine others who came nearest in their guesses were awarded the horns. Jabez Rockwell was one of the successful contestants. He cut his name in the horn, and later added his record, so that the inscription is as follows:

“Jabez Rockwell of Ridgebury, Conn.
HIS HORN. Made in camp at Valley Forge.
FIRST used at MONMOUTH, June 28, 1778
Last at Yorktown, 1781.”

Jabez Rockwell was at the Battle of Trenton and crossed the Delaware River in the same boat with Washington.

The Second Regiment Light Dragoons commanded by Colonel Elisha Sheldon of Salisbury was stationed along the Connecticut border. Paul Keeler, Jr., of Ridgefield was a trumpeter in this regiment.* Three officers in this Regiment came to Ridgefield and made it their home, Lieutenant Elijah Janes of Brimfield, Massachusetts, Lieutenant Joshua King of Bridgewater, Massachusetts, and Lieutenant James Dole of Wethersfield. They evidently followed Lieutenant King, who was attracted to Ridgefield by

*Paul Keeler, Jr., was born in Ridgefield April 9th, 1756. He married Sarah Burt Cornwell. He bought the land and built a house where now stands the Methodist Church. He moved to Falls Village, Pennsylvania, where he died and was buried. He sold his property in Ridgefield to Nathan Dauchy.



LIEUTENANT JOSHUA KING,
a hero of the Revolution and the ancestor of the King family of Ridgefield.
From the original by Gilbert Stuart.

Anne Ingersoll, the beautiful daughter of Reverend Jonathan Ingersoll. "General" King, as he was always called by his fellow-townsmen, was a leading citizen of Ridgefield in his day. He was the leader of the Democratic, or as it was called, the Republican party, a devout follower of Thomas Jefferson, while Colonel Philip Burr Bradley was at the head of the Federal party. Lieutenant King was only seventeen years old when he enlisted in Sheldon's Dragoons. He was brought into prominence at the time of Major Andre's capture, which occurred September 23rd, 1780. Lieutenant King was stationed at South Salem and the morning after his capture, Andre was brought to Lieutenant King's headquarters. The latter was being shaved. After the barber had finished, and dressed his hair, Lieutenant King turned to his prisoner and inquired if he also desired the service of the barber. At that time he did not recognize in his prisoner a man of such rank and distinction. His clothes were dusty and his linen soiled and stained. After being shaved and having his hair dressed, he requested to be allowed to go to bed in order that his linen might be washed. Lieutenant King informed him that this would not be necessary, as he could furnish him with a change of clothing. Major Andre availed himself of the opportunity, and a friendly relation sprang up between the two officers. That night they occupied the same bed. In the year 1817, General King wrote to a friend the exact incidents connected with the capture of Major Andre. This letter is of great historical interest, and is as follows:

" Ridgefield, June 17th, 1817.

" Dear Sir:

" Yours of the 9th is before me. I have noted the contents and am sorry to express the indignation I feel at the idea of being obliged to translate a foreign language to obtain a true history of any part of our revolution. The facts, so far as I am acquainted with them, I will state to the best of my ability or recollection. Paulding, Wil-

liams and VanWort* I never saw before, or since, that event, I know nothing about them. The time and place where they stopped Major Andre, seems to justify the character you have drawn of them. The truth is, to the imprudence of the man and not the patriotism of any one, is to be ascribed the capture of Major Andre. I was the first and only officer who had charge of him whilst at the Headquarters of the 2nd Regiment of Light Dragoons, which was then at Esquire Gilbert's in South Salem. He was brought up by an adjutant and four men belonging to the Connecticut militia under the command of Lieut. Col. Jamison from the lines near Tarrytown, a character under the disguised name of John Anderson. He looked somewhat like a reduced gentleman. His small clothes were nankin, with long white top boots, in part, his undress military suit. His coat purple, with gold lace, worn somewhat threadbare, with a small brimmed tarnished beaver on his head. He wore his hair in a *quieu* with a long, black, band and his clothes somewhat dirty. In this garb I took charge of him. After breakfast my Barber came in to dress me, — after which, I requested *him* to undergo the same operation, which he did.

“When the ribbon was taken from his hair, I observed it full of powder. This circumstance with others that occurred, induced me to believe I had no ordinary personage in charge.

“He requested permission to take the bed, whilst his shirt and small clothes could be washed. I told him that was needless, for a change was at his service, which he accepted.

In the cemetery of the old Presbyterian Church at Elmsford, in the town of Greenburgh, lie the remains of Isaac Van Wart. Upon one side of the monument is the following:

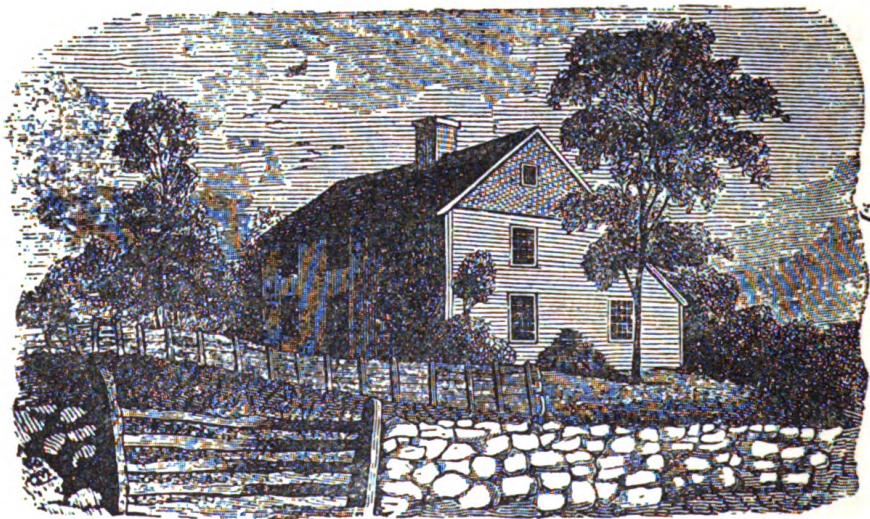
HERE REPOSES
THE MORTAL REMAINS
OF
ISAAC VAN WART
AN ELDER IN THE GREENBURGH CHURCH
WHO DIED
ON THE 23RD OF MAY, 1828,
IN THE
69TH YEAR OF HIS AGE
HAVING LIVED THE LIFE, HE DIED THE DEATH, OF THE
CHRISTIAN.

"We were close pent up in a bedroom with a guard at the door and window. There was a spacious yard before the door, which he desired he might be permitted to walk in with me. I accordingly disposed of my guard in such a manner as to prevent an escape. While walking together, he observed, he must make a confidant of somebody and he knew not a more proper person than myself, as I had appeared to befriend a stranger in distress. After settling the point between ourselves, he told me who he was, and gave me a short account of himself from the time he was taken at St. Johns in 1775 to that time. He requested pen and ink and wrote immediately to Genl. Washington, declaring who he was. About midnight the express returned with orders from Genl. Washington to Col. Sheldon to send Major Andre immediately to Headquarters.

"I started with him and before I got to North Salem meeting house met another express with a letter directed to the Officer who had Major Andre in charge, and which letter directed a circuitous route to Headquarters for fear of re-capture, and gave an account of Arnold's desertion &c. — with directions to forward the letter to Col. Sheldon. I did so, and before I got to the end of my journey, I was joined by Captain Hoodgers first and after, by Major Talmadge and Captain Rogers. Having given you this clue, I proceed with the major's own story. He said, he came up the North river in the sloop of war Vulture for the purpose of seeing a person by flag of truce. That was not however accomplished. Of course he had to come ashore in a skiff, and after he had done his business, the wind was so high, the Dutchman who took him ashore dare not venture to return him on board. The night following the militia had lined the shore, so that no attempt would be made with safety, consequently he was furnished, after changing his clothes, with a continental horse and General Arnold's pass, and was to take a route by Peekskill, Crumpound, Pinesbridge, Sing Sing, Tarrytown, &c, to New York.

"Nothing occurred to disturb him on his route until he arrived at the last place, except at Crumpound. He told me, his hair stood erect and his heart was in his mouth on meeting Col. Samuel B. Webb of our army plump in the face. An acquaintance of his said that Col. Stodert knew him and he thought that he was gone but they

kept moving along and soon passed each other. He then thought himself past all danger and while ruminating on his good luck and hairbreadth escapes, he was assailed by three bushmen near Tarrytown, who ordered him to stand. He said to them, 'I hope gentlemen you belong to the lower party.' 'We do,' says one. 'So do I,' says he, 'and by the token of this ring and key you will let me pass.' 'I am a British officer on business of importance and must not be detained.' One of them took his watch from him



SQUIRE JACOB GILBERT RESIDENCE.

Colonel Sheldon's headquarters at Lower Salem (South Salem). The lower window to the left belongs to the room in which Andre wrote his first letter to Washington.

and then ordered him to dismount. The moment that was done, he said he found he was mistaken, he must shift his tone. He says, 'I am happy gentlemen to find I am mistaken' — 'you belong to the upper party and so do I,' and to convince you of it here is Genl. Arnold's pass,* handing it to them. 'Damn Arnold's pass,' said they. 'You said you were a British officer. Where is your money?' 'Gentlemen I have none about me,' he replied. 'You a Brit-

*Andre's Pass.

Headquarters, Robinson's House,
Sept. 22, 1780.

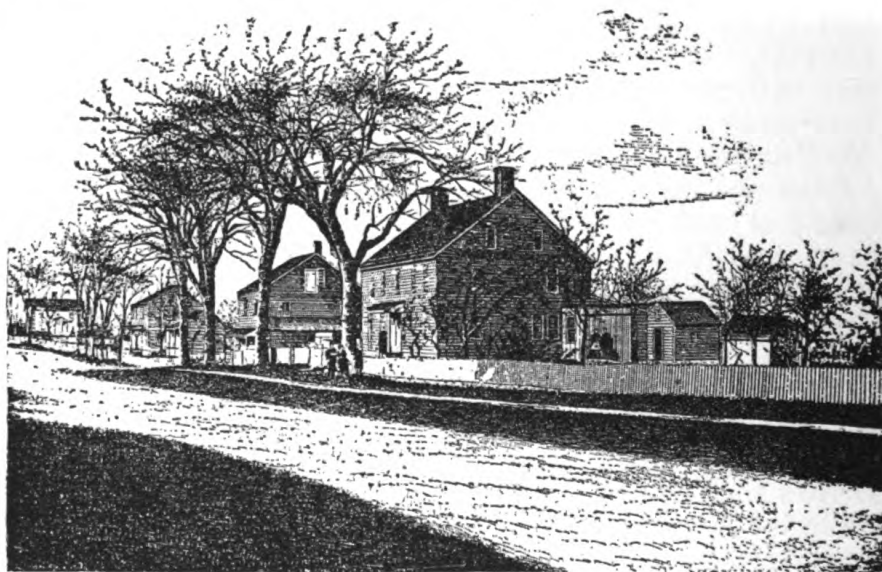
Permit John Anderson to pass the Guards to the White Plains, or below, if he Chuses, He being on Public business by my direction.

B. Arnold, M. Gen'l.

ish officer with a gold watch and no money! Let us search him.' They did so, but found none. Says one, 'He has got his money in his boots, lets have them off and see.' They took off his boots and there they found his papers but no money. Then they examined his saddle, but found none. He said, he saw they had such a thirst for money, he would put them in the way to get it, if they would be directed by him. He asked them to name their sum to deliver him at King's bridge. They answered him in this way, 'If* we deliver you at King's bridge, we shall be sent to the sugar-house and you will save your money.' He says, 'If you will not trust my honor, two of you may stay with me and one shall go with the letter I will write, name your sum — the sum was agreed upon, but I cannot recollect whether it was 500 or 1000 guineas but the latter, I think was the sum. They held a consultation a considerable time and finally they told him if he wrote, a party would be sent out and take them and then they should all be prisoners. They said, 'they had concluded to take him to the commanding officer on the lines.' They did so and retained the watch until Genl. Washington sent for them to Tappan, when the watch was restored to Major Andre. Thus, you see, had money been at command, after the imprudent confession of Major Andre or any security given that the British would have put confidence in, he might have passed on to Sir Henry Clinton's Headquarters with all his papers and Arnold's pass into the bargain. I do not recollect to have seen a true statement of this business in any history that has fallen into my hands. If my memory serves me, Arnold solicited and obtained, the command of West Point in consequence of his being an invalid and the reason why his negociation was not completed by flag of truce, I will state what Genl. Washington told the French ambassador, Lucerne. He stated on his route to Hartford, that he dined with Genl. Arnold at Haverstraw at Joshua Smith's where Arnold and Andre met. Genl. Arnold shewed him a letter from Genl. Robinson directed to Genl. Israel Putnam, or Officer commanding West Point requesting an in-

†Paulding, one of Andre's captors, had effected his escape only three days previously from the New York Sugar House, in the dress of a German yager. General Van Cortlandt states that Paulding wore this dress on the day of the capture, which tended to deceive Andre and led him to exclaim, in answer to their reply, "Thank God, I am once more among friends."

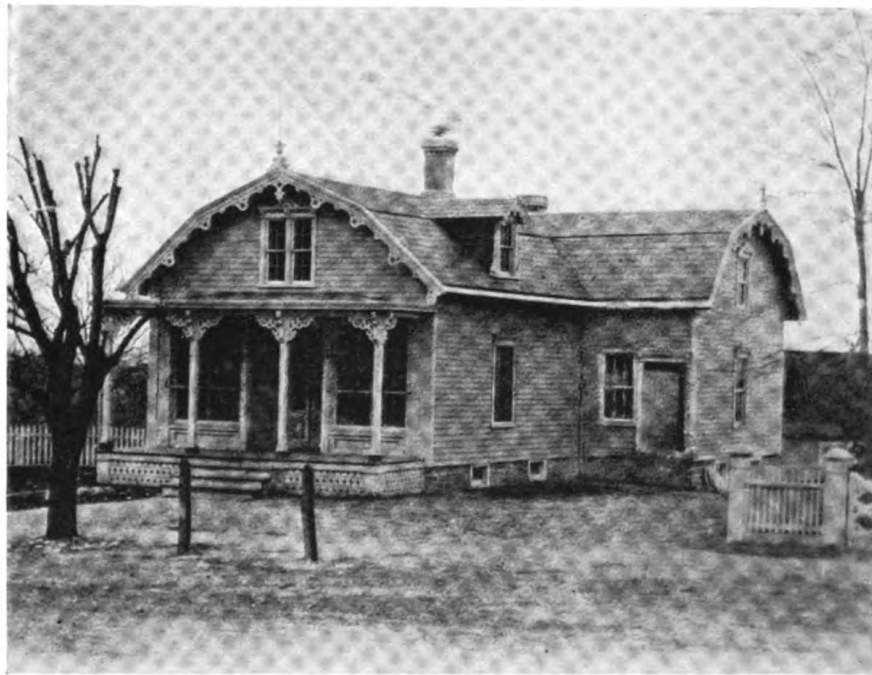
interview by flag on business of the first importance to the United States. Genl. Arnold asked Genl. Washington if he should go and hear what he had to say. Genl. Washington replied that it would be very improper for the Commander in chief of a post to meet anybody himself — he could send a trusty hand if he thought proper. But, he added, I had no more suspicion of Arnold than I had of myself. This accounts for Major Andre's failure to negotiate by flag and his subsequent movements. I have



FORMER RESIDENCE OF JOHN W. ROCKWELL,
now the Elms, with the Abner Gilbert, Jr. and Stebbins Houses in the distance.

thus complied with your request, giving you such facts, viz, what I had from the mouth of Major Andre and what I heard Genl. Washington tell the French minister soon after the execution of Andre."

Lieutenant King remained with the Dragoons until the end of the war. He was at Yorktown at the surrender of Cornwallis. At the close of the war he married Miss Ingersoll, and entered upon a business career with his fellow officer, Lieutenant James Dole, under the name of King and Dole. Their store was the same building now converted into a dwelling house, known as Old Hundred.



OLD STORE OF KING AND DOLE,
*established 1783. Subsequently conducted by King and Hawley, Hawley
and Bailey, Keeler and Northrop. As a residence, this building is known
as Old Hundred.*

In preparing the following list of soldiers from Ridgefield in the Revolutionary War, it has been the earnest effort of the author to furnish an accurate statement in regard to each person. No name has been given in the list without a careful and exhaustive research as to its right to be included. In preparing the record, full realization of what a list of this character will mean in the generations to come, has been taken into consideration.

There are names upon the soldiers' monument in Ridgefield of men who came from adjoining towns. The author has included these soldiers, mainly in order to clear up this point for the future. In some instances names on the monument are mis-spelled and duplicated. Thaddeus "Wheelock" should read "Whitlock." Many names are spelled inaccurately upon the rosters of the Continental regiments.

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|-------------------|---|
| Patrick Ambrose | enlisted Jan. 1, 1781, Capt. Converse Co., 2nd Regt., Connecticut Line. Enlisted April 1, 1781, for three years, 2nd Regt., Capt. Richard's Co., Col. Swift, at West Point. Disch. Dec., 1783. Lived in Ridgebury. |
| Dr. Amos Baker | Surgeon's mate, Bradley's Battalion, Wadsworth's Brigade, 1776—at Battle of Ridgefield. Capt. Isaac Hine's Co., Alarm at Fairfield, July, 1779. |
| Bartholomew Baker | enlisted June 21, 1776, Capt. Elijah Abel's Co., Bradley's Battalion—taken prisoner at Ft. Washington. Disch. Nov. 16, 1776. Enlisted Mar. 4, 1777, Capt. Ezekiel Sanford's Co., 5th Regt., Col. Philip Burr Bradley. |

- (May, 1779, Capt. David Olmsted's Co., Col. Nehemiah Beardsley.) Disch. Mar. 4, 1780.
- Seth Baker enlisted July 22, 1775, 4th Co., Capt. Joseph Hait, 7th Regt., Sullivan's Brigade. Disch. Dec. 23, 1775. 6th Co., Capt. Gamaliel Northrup, First Battalion, Wadsworth's Brigade, Col. Silliman.
- John Baldwin Capt. Isaac Hine's Co., Col. Nehemiah Beardsley, Alarm at Fairfield, Bedford and Norwalk, 1779.
- James Barnes Capt. David Olmsted's Co., Col. Nehemiah Beardsley, May, 1779. Capt. Isaac Hine's Co.
- John Barns Marine, Sloop Guilford, Captain David Hawley, 1779. (Unable to place John Barns as a Ridgefield man.)
- Daniel Beers enlisted Aug. 8, 1775, Fifer, 4th Co., Capt. Joseph Hait, 7th Regt., Col. Charles Webb. Disch. Dec. 10, 1775. Capt. Ozias Marvin's Co., 9th Connecticut Militia, 1776. Was at Battle of Ridgefield.
- Stephen Beers 6th Co., Capt. Gamaliel Northrup, First Battalion, Wadsworth Brigade, Col. Silliman. 1776.
- Abijah Benedict enlisted Aug. 13, 1776, 6th Co., Capt. Gamaliel Northrup, Col. Philip Burr Bradley's Battalion, Wadsworth Brigade. Disch. Jan. 11, 1777. Sergt. Capt. David Olmsted's Co., Alarm at Fairfield. 1779.
- Daniel Benedict Connecticut Line — 1777 to 1781.

Darius Benedict	Capt. David Olmsted's Co., Col. Nehemiah Beardsley. May, 1779.
Gamaliel Benedict	6th Co., Capt. Gamaliel Northrup, First Battalion, Wadsworth Brigade. Corp., Capt. Isaac Hine's Co., Col. Nehemiah Beardsley. Alarm at Fairfield, Norwalk and Bedford, 1779.
Jesse Benedict	Capt. David Olmsted's Co., Col. Nehemiah Beardsley. Alarm at Fairfield, 1779.
John Benedict	Corp., Capt. Isaac Hine's Co., Col. Nehemiah Beardsley. Alarm at Fairfield, Bedford and Norwalk. July, 1779.
Benjamin Bennett	enlisted Nov. 25, 1776, for war. Capt. David Olmsted's Co., Col. Nehemiah Beardsley, 1779.
Gabriel Bennett	enlisted Nov. 25, 1776, for war. Corp., Capt. David Olmsted's Co., Col. Nehemiah Beardsley. Alarm at Fairfield, Bedford and Norwalk, July, 1779.
Isaac Bennett	1st Militia Co. of Ridgefield, Capt. Ebenezer Jones. Enlisted Jan. 1, 1781, Capt. David Humphrey's Co., 2nd Regt., Connecticut Line — Col. Heman Swift — on roll Feb. 1, 1783.
John Bennett	6th Co., Capt. Gamaliel Northrup, First Battalion, Wadsworth Brigade, Col. Silliman, — Connecticut Line. 1776.
Trowbridge Bennett	6th Co., Capt. Gamaliel Northrup, 1st Battalion, Wadsworth Brigade, Col. Silliman, 1776, Connect-

- icut Line — Corp., Capt. David Olmsted's Co., Col. Beardsley — alarm at Fairfield.
- Abraham Betts 6th Co., Capt. Gamaliel Northrop, 1st Battalion, Wadsworth Brigade, Col. Silliman, 1776, Connecticut Line.
- James Betts Com. Ensign, May 1, 1775, 5th Co., Capt. Matthew Mead, 5th Regt., Col. David Waterbury. Re-enlisted 1776, 1st Lieut., 6th Co., Capt. Northrop, 1st Battalion, Wadsworth Brigade.
- Thomas Boughton Teamster with Rochambeau, French Troops. Enlisted July, 1781. At Battle of Yorktown, Va. Served until 1782.
- Hezekiah Bouton enlisted Jan. 10, 1781, for three years, Capt. David Humphrey's Co., 2nd Regt., Col. Heman Swift, Connecticut Line — served until Feb., 1783.
- Seth Bouton 1st Militia Co. of Ridgefield, Capt. Ebenezer Jones, 7th Co., Capt. Samuel Comstock, 9th Regt., Militia, 1776.
- Colonel Philip Burr
Bradley active and prominent throughout the entire war, 1776, Lieut. Col. Bradley's Battalion, Gen. James Wadsworth's Brigade — Col. Silliman. Col. 5th Regt., Connecticut Line — service along Hudson, Germantown, Monmouth, Valley Forge. Regiment wintered at Connecticut Village 1780-1781, then

	consolidated for formation of 1781-1783 — At the Battle of Ridgefield, April 27, 1777.
Samuel Bradley	5th Co., Capt. Samuel Hait, 5th Regt., Col. Philip Burr Bradley, Connecticut Line, July 1, 1780 — Dec. 13, 1780.
Lucus Brown	Capt. David Olmsted's Co., Col. Beardsley's return, Connecticut Line, 1779.
Solomon Brown	Connecticut Line 1781-1783, Col. Beardsley.
Gilbert Brush	Capt. Jonah Foster's Co., Col. Beardsley return — Connecticut Line, 1778.
James Burns	Capt. Isaac Hine's Co., Col. Beardsley, Connecticut Line, 1777-1781.
Wakeman Burritt	On Pension Roll, 1832, also 1840. Buried in Titicus.
John Butler	Captain Isaac Hine's Co., Col. Beardsley, Connecticut Line, 1777-1781.
Hugh Cain	Ensign, 1st Battalion, under Gen. Wooster, 1776-1777. Sergeant, Capt. Isaac Hine's Co., Alarm at Fairfield, July, 1777.
Daniel Canfield	Capt. Knowles Sears' Co., Col. Beardsley, Connecticut Line, 1779.
Daniel Coley	Capt. Joseph Hait's Co., Col. Charles Webb's Regt., 1775.
Dennis Collins	enlisted Jan. 7, 1777, for the war, 6th Co., Capt. Northrop, 1st Battalion, Wadsworth's Brigade, Col. Silliman, Disch. Jan. 29, 1778.

- Aaron Comstock Sergt., 6th Co., Capt. Northrop, 1st Battalion, Wadsworth's Brigade, Col. Silliman, Com. Quartermaster, Jan. 1, 1777, 8th Regt., Col. John Chandler, Connecticut Line. Adjutant, 1st Battalion, Wadsworth Brigade, Col. Silliman, Sergt., 9th Co., Capt. Ruben Scofield, 9th Co., Militia, June, 1779. Pensioner Act of 1832.
- Major Samuel Comstock (of Wilton) (Private in French & Indian War), Capt. in Revolution from 1776-1783, 7th Co., 9th Regt. Militia. Commissioned Major, Oct. 10, 1783. At battles of White Plains, Germantown, Fort Mifflin, Monmouth, Yorktown, also in camp at Valley Forge.
- John Condrick Capt., Jonah Foster's Co., Col. Beardsley, Connecticut Line, 1777-1781.
- Ammon Crow 6th Co., Capt. Gamaliel Northrop, 1st Battalion, Wadsworth Brigade, Capt. Jonah Foster's Co., Col. Beardsley, Col. Silliman, May, 1779, Connecticut Line.
- Reuben Crow Capt. Jonah Foster's Co., Col. Beardsley, Connecticut Line, May, 1779.
- Edward Crow Connecticut Line 1781-1783.
- William Cummins Capt. Isaac Hine's Co., May, 1779, Continental Regt., 1775. Capt., St. John's Co., 5th Regt., Col. Philip Burr Bradley, from July 16, 1780 — Dec. 4, 1780.

Joseph Darling	1st Militia Co. of Ridgefield, Captain Ebenezer Jones, 1777.
Jeremiah Dauchy	Capt. David Olmsted's Co., Alarm at Fairfield.
Daniel Dean	Capt. Isaac Hine's Co., Alarm at Fairfield, 1779.
Jeremiah Dean	Capt. David Olmsted's Co., 1779, Connecticut Line, Col. Nehemiah Beardsley. Enlisted 3 years or for war.
Capt. Elihu DeForest	Lieut., Ridgefield Alarm, list 1779, Capt., Ridgefield Alarm, list. 1780. Lieut. 8th Co., 16th Regt., Oct. 1779. Capt. 8th Co., 16th Regt., May, 1780.
Samuel DeForest	Fifer, Capt. Gamaliel Northrop's Co. Lieut., 2nd Regt., Col. Swift, Connecticut Line. Retired with Army June, 1783.
Uriah DeForest	enlisted Sept. 28, 1776, 7th Co., Capt. Samuel Comstock, 9th Regt., Militia.
John Dennison	Connecticut Line 1781-1783.
Levi Disbrow	Taken prisoner Battle of Ridgefield, April 27, 1777.
William Doge	Capt. Knowles Sear's Co., Connecticut Line, May, 1779. Connecticut Line 1781-1783.
James Dole	Lieut. Sheldon's Dragoons — Service along Connecticut Line and Hudson. At Battle of Yorktown.
Capt. Ichabod Doolittle	Com. Capt. May 1, 1775, 7th Co., Col. David Waterbury. Disch. Nov. 4, 1775.
Benjamin Downs (Dawns)	Col. Nehemiah Beardsley's Regt., Connecticut Line.

Robert Edmond	Capt. Isaac Hine's Co., Col Beard- sley. Alarm at Fairfield, Bedford and Norwalk, July, 1779. At Bat- tle of Ridgefield.
William Edmonds	Wounded at Battle of Ridgefield. Danbury Alarm, 1779.
Samuel Fairbanks	Capt. Isaac Hine's Co., Col. Beard- sley. Alarm at Fairfield, Bedford and Norwalk, July, 1779.
Peter Finch	Capt. Seth Seymour's Co., 9th Regt., Gen. Wooster. At Battle of White Plains. (Lived in Ridgebury.)
William Fleet	enlisted during war. Col. Nehe- miah Beardsley's Regt., Connecti- cut Line.
James Folliet	Capt. David Olmsted's Co., Alarm at Fairfield, 1779.
Arthur Forrester	6th Co., Capt. Gamaliel North- rop, 1st Battalion, Wadsworth's Brigade, Col. Silliman. Connecti- cut Line, 1776.
Capt. Jonah Foster	Col. Nehemiah Beardsley's Regt.
Benjamin Fowler	Capt. David Olmsted's Co. Buried in Ridgebury.
Mical Frank	Capt. Isaac Hine's Co., Connecti- cut Line, 1779.
David Gilbert	Teamster, Capt. Elijah Abel's Co., Bradley's Battalion. Taken pris- oner at Ft. Washington.
Elisha Gilbert	Sergeant, Capt. Isaac Hait's Co., Col. Beardsley, Connecticut Line. Frozen to death at Valley Forge.
John Gilbert	Capt. David Olmsted's Co. Alarm at Fairfield. Capt. David Olm- sted's Co., Col. Roger Enos' Regt., Connecticut Line. Capt. Samuel

	Hait's Co., 5th Regt., Col. Philip Burr Bradley. July 1st, 1780, to Dec. 31, 1780.
Moses Gilbert	6th Co., Capt. Northrop's 1st Battalion, Wadsworth's Brigade. Connecticut Line, 1776.
David Hall	6th Co., Capt. Northrop, 1st Battalion, Wadsworth's Brigade, Col. Silliman.
Barnabas Hamblin	6th Co., Capt. Northrop, 1st Battalion, Wadsworth's Brigade, Col. Silliman.
Stephen Hard	Capt. Isaac Hine's Co., Col. Beardsley, Alarm at Fairfield, Bedford and Norwalk, July, 1779.
Ebenezer Hawley	Clerk, Capt. David Olmsted's Co., Col. Beardsley. Alarm at Fairfield, 1779.
Elijah Hawley	Record unobtained.
Elisha Hawley	Capt. John Gregory's Co., 9th Regt., Militia, under General Wooster, 3 months in service. Jan. 21, 1777. Fought at Battle of Ridgefield.
Ezekiel Hawley	Col. Nehemiah Beardsley's Regt., Connecticut Line. Chairman Committee of Safety, Ridgefield.
Hezekiah Hawley	enlisted May 13, 1775, 9th Co., Capt. Beardsley, Col. David Waterbury — at siege of St. John, Oct. 1775. At Quebec with Montgomery. Re-enlisted Nov. 17, 1776, Capt. Chapman, Col. Elmore — at Fort Stanwix. Re-enlisted Sept. 30, 1777, for the war, Capt. Humphrey's Co., Col. Swift,

- Connecticut Line — at West Point. May, 1779, Capt. David Olmsted's Co., Connecticut Line. Paid Jan. 1781-Dec. 31, 1781. Capt. Thomas Converse, 2nd Regt., Col. Swift, Connecticut Line. Feb. 1, 1783, Capt. Humphrey's Col. Heman Swift, 2nd Regt. Pensioner 1818.
- Joseph Hawley enlisted Jan. 14, 1781, for 3 years. On roll of Capt. Peter Robertson's Co., 2nd Regt., Connecticut Line, Col. Heman Swift.
- Talcott Hawley enlisted under age of 15 years. Capt. David Olmsted, Col. Enos, 1777-1778. Capt. Converse Co., 2nd Regt., Col. Swift, Connecticut Line. Re-enlisted Jan. 25, 1781, for three years, Capt. Richard's Co., 2nd Regt., Connecticut Line, Col. Swift.
- Thomas Hawley enlisted July 24, 1775, 4th Co., Capt. Joseph Hait, 7th Continental Regt., Col. Webb, Sullivan's Brigade. Capt. Isaac Hine's Co., 1779. Alarm at Fairfield, Bedford and Norwalk.
- John Hayes Capt. Isaac Hine's Co., Col. Beardsley, Connecticut Line, 1777, 1781.
- Capt. Isaac Hine Capt., Col. Beardsley, Tryon's Invasion, 1779 — alarm at Fairfield — at Battle of Yorktown, Va.
- Jared Hine enlisted Aug. 1, 1775, 4th Co., Capt. Joseph Hait, 7th Regt., Sullivan's Brigade. Disch. Dec. 23, 1775. Re-enlisted, Capt. Gam-

- aliel Northrop's Co., 1st Battalion, Wadsworth's Brigade. Missing after the Battle of White Plains. October 28, 1776.
- Newton Hine 6th Co., Capt. Northrop, 1st Battalion, Wadsworth Brigade, Col. Silliman.
- John Hitchcock enlisted Jan. 31, 1777, Capt. Sanford's Co., for three years. Capt. Isaac Hine's Co., Connecticut Line, 1779.
- Samuel Holmes enlisted Jan. 1, 1777, 6th Co., Capt. Northrop, 1st Battalion, Wadsworth's Brigade, for three years. Capt. Ezekiel Sanford's Co., 5th Regt., Col. Philip Burr Bradley.
- Ebenezer Hoyt 1st Militia Co. of Ridgefield. Drafted April 24, 1777.
- Salmon Hubbell
(of Wilton) Capt. Joseph Hait, 4th Co., 7th Regt., Col. Chas. Webb. Commissioned ensign Jan. 1, 1777. 8th Regt., Connecticut Line. 2nd Lieut., Mar. 2, 1778. 1st Lieut., June 4, 1779, Col. John Chandler. Lt. 1st Battalion with the Light Co., assault of Stony Point, July 15, 1779. Paymaster 5th Regt., Connecticut Line, appointed Nov. 1, 1781, to Jan. 1, 1783. Lt. in Capt. Samuel Comstock's Co., Lt. Col. Webb's Co., 3rd Regt., Connecticut Line. Retired with the army June, 1783. Capt. Salmon Hubbell first served as Sergeant in

- 1776, in Capt. Gamaliel Northrop's Co. of Ridgefield. At Brooklyn, Harlem Heights and the Battle of White Plains. Pensioner, 1818. Also a member of the Order of Cincinnati.
- Aaron Hull** Capt. Isaac Hine's Co., Col. Nehemiah Beardsley's Regt., alarm at Fairfield, Norwalk and Bedford, July, 1779.
- Silas Hull** Capt. Isaac Hine's Co., Col. Nehemiah Beardsley's Regt., alarm at Fairfield, Norwalk and Bedford, July, 1779.
- Lt. Daniel Hurlbutt**
(of Wilton) Lieut., Capt. Nathan Gilbert's Co., Lieut., Col. J. Baldwin. Marched Oct. 5, 1777, Disch. Oct. 30, 1777. Served along the Hudson at Fishkill and other places.
- Thomas Hutchinson** Connecticut Line, 1777-1781; Connecticut Line, 1781-1783. Enlisted May 22, 1781, for 3 years. Col. Nehemiah Beardsley. On roll Capt. Peter Robinson's Co., Feb. 1, 1783. Re-enlisted Jan. 14, 1781, 2nd Regt., Connecticut Line, Col. Swift.
- Alvin Hyatt** enlisted May 8, 1775, Disch. Nov. 26, 1775. Corp. in 5th Co., Capt. Matthew Mead, 5th Regt., Col. Waterbury. Corp. in Capt. Gamaliel Northrop's 6th Co., Wadsworth's Brigade. Pensioner, 1832.

Thomas Hyatt, 2nd	Capt. Jabez Gregory's Co., 9th Regt. Militia, Gen. David Wooster. 2 months, 1 day in service. Disch. Dec. 30, 1776.
Ebenezer Jacklin	Capt. Isaac Hine's Co., Connecticut Line, 1777-1781, Col. Nehemiah Beardsley.
Lewis Jacklin	Col. Nehemiah Beardsley, Connecticut Line, 1777-1781; Capt. Jonah Foster's Co., May, 1779, Connecticut Line.
Daniel Jackson	Enlisted, 1778, Capt. Yates' Co., Col. Roger Enos. Capt. David Olmsted's Co., Col. Bezaleel Beebe, 1779. Capt. Joseph Walker's Co., Col. Samuel B. Webb, 1782.
Joseph Jackson	6th Co., Capt. Gamaliel Northrop, 1st Battalion, Wadsworth's Brigade, Col. Nehemiah Beardsley, Connecticut Line, 1776.
Reuben Jackson	Capt. Gamaliel Northrop's Co., 6th Co., 1st Battalion, Wadsworth's Brigade, Col. Silliman, 1776.
Elijah Janes	Lieutenant in Sheldon's Dragoons. Service at Yorktown. App't. Cornet, Nov. 16, 1779. Promoted Lieut. Nov. 24, 1779. Paymaster, 1782.
Thomas Jarvis	Capt. Gamaliel Northrop's 6th Co., 1st Battalion, Connecticut Line, Wadsworth's Brigade, Col. Silliman, 1776.
John Joice (Joyce)	enlisted May 16, 1775, in Capt.

- Ichabod Doolittle's Co. Disch. Oct. 8, 1775. Re-enlisted as drummer in Capt. Gamaliel Northrop's 6th Co., 1st Battalion, Wadsworth's Brigade, Col. Silliman, 1776.
- Ebenezer Jones** Capt. 1st Militia Co. of Ridgefield, April, 1777. Capt. Isaac Hine's Co., Col. Nehemiah Beardsley, Alarm at Fairfield, Bedford and Norwalk, 1779. Buried in Mapleshade Cemetery. Died Dec. 24, 1851, aged 86.
- Lieutenant Kafin** (Name unknown) (probably Keeler — Ridgefield monument improperly lettered.)
- Aaron Keeler** Capt. Gamaliel Northrop's Co., 1776, 1st Battalion, Wadsworth's Brigade, Col. Silliman.
- Benjamin Keeler** Capt. David Olmsted's Co., Col. Nehemiah Beardsley. Alarm at Fairfield, 1779.
- Jabez Keeler** Capt. Gamaliel Northrop's Co., 6th Co., 1st Battalion, Wadsworth's Brigade, Connecticut Line, Col. Silliman, 1776.
- Jeremiah Keeler** 7th Co., Connecticut Line, Col. Nehemiah Beardsley. Was presented with a sword by Lafayette for his bravery at Yorktown. Pensioner 1832.
- John Keeler**
- Levi Keeler** Capt. Gamaliel Olmsted's Co., Connecticut Line, Col. Nehemiah Beardsley, 1776; Capt. David Olmsted's Co., Col. Nehemiah Beardsley, Connecticut Line, 1779.

- Lewis Keeler** Died in New Jersey near Paterson about 1849, aged 89. He revisited Ridgefield a short time before his death, and his testimony enabled some of his old comrades and the widows of others to prove their services, and secure pensions. Lewis, Nathaniel and Thomas were brothers, sons of Silas and Abigail (Elmer) Keeler.
- Lockwood Keeler** enlisted July 22, 1775, in 4th Co., Capt. Joseph Hait, 7th Regt., Col. Webb, Sullivan's Brigade. Disch. Dec. 23, 1775. Re-enlisted in 6th Co., 1st Battalion, Wadsworth's Brigade, Connecticut Line, 1776.
- Matthew Keeler** Capt. David Olmsted's Co., Col. Nehemiah Beardsley, 1779. Alarm at Fairfield. Died Oct. 29, 1795.
- Nathaniel Keeler** Died at Fenner, N. Y., Sept. 30, 1853, aged 95. Pensioner.
- Nehemiah Keeler** Applied for a pension, 1833.
- Paul Keeler, Jr.** Trumpeter in Sheldon's Dragoons, Light Horse, 2nd Regt.
- Thaddeus Keeler** Sergt., Capt. Gamaliel Northrop's Co., 1776, 6th Co., 1st Battalion, Connecticut Line, Col. Silliman, Wadsworth's Brigade. Commissioned Lieut. May 1, 1775, Capt. Ichabod Doolittle's Co., 5th Co.; Sergt., 4th Co., Capt. Joseph Hait, 7th Continental Regt., Sullivan's Brigade. Quartermaster, 5th Regt., Col. Philip Burr Bradley. Extensive service throughout the war.

- Thomas Keeler enlisted at age of 14 in 1776, on roll Capt. David Humphrey's Co., 2nd Regt., Connecticut Line, Col. Swift, Oct. 1, 1783. 7th Co., Connecticut Line, Col. Nehemiah Beardsley. Capt. St. John's Co., under General Lafayette at the Battle of Yorktown.
- Timothy Keeler Capt. Isaac Hine's Co., alarm at Fairfield, Norwalk and Bedford, 1779.
- Timothy Keeler, 2nd Capt. Isaac Hine's Co., alarm at Fairfield, Bedford and Norwalk, 1779.
- Uriah Keeler Capt. Gamaliel Northrop's Co., 1776. Capt. Clapp Raymond's Co., Col. Mead, Connecticut Line. Capt. Roger's 8th Co., 3rd Regt., Col. Samuel B. Webb to Jan., 1783.
- Peter Kellis enlisted Feb. 11, 1777, for 3 years in Capt. Sanford's Co., Col. Nehemiah Beardsley, Connecticut Line. Died June 11, 1778.
- Daniel Kellogg Capt. Isaac Hine's Co., — alarm at Fairfield, Bedford and Norwalk, July, 1779.
- Elijah Kellogg enlisted May 10, 1775, 5th Co., Capt. Mathew Mead, 5th Regt., Col. Waterbury. Paid from July 1, 1780-Dec. 13, 1780, Capt. Gamaliel Northrop's 6th Co., 1st Battalion, Wadsworth's Brigade, Col. Silliman. 1st Co., Col Philip Burr Bradley, 5th Regt., Connecticut Line, alarm at Fairfield, Capt.

	Isaac Hine's Co., 1779 — Alarm at Bedford and Norwalk.
Nathan Kellogg	Capt. David Olmsted's Co., — alarm at Fairfield.
Joshua King	App't. Cornet Nov. 16, 1779. Promoted Lieut. Nov. 20, 1779. Quartermaster, 1782. Lieutenant in Sheldon's Dragoons along Connecticut Line — at battle of Yorktown, Va.
David Lavake	Capt. Gamaliel Northrop's 6th Co., 1st Battalion, Wadsworth's Brigade, Col. Silliman.
James Leason	Capt. Chapman's Co., also Capt. Thaddeus Swift's Co., 2nd Regt., Connecticut Line, 1781-1783.
Seth Lee	enlisted July 24, 1775, 4th Co., Capt. Joseph Hait, 7th Continental Regt., Col. Charles Webb, Sullivan's Brigade. Disch. Dec. 10, 1775. Capt. Isaac Hine's Co., — alarm at Fairfield, 1779.
William Lee	Corp., Capt. Gamaliel Northrop's 6th Co., 1st Battalion, Wadsworth Brigade. Died in service, 1776, aged 23 years. Buried in Titicus Cemetery.
Elisha Lincoln	enlisted May 11, 1775, 6th Co., 5th Regt., Capt. Noble Benedict. Re-enlisted Nov. 17, 1775. May 26, 1777, he enlisted as a musician in 6th Co., 5th Regt., Capt. Wright, Col. Philip Burr Bradley. Capt. Jonah Foster's Co., Col. Nehemiah Beardsley, Connecticut

- Uriel Lobdell Line, May, 1779. In 1818, he was living in Vermont, a pensioner. 1st Militia Co. of Ridgefield, Capt. Ebenezer Jones. Drafted Apr. 24, 1777.
- James Lusey Capt. Isaac Hine's Co., Col. Nehemiah Beardsley, alarm at Fairfield, Bedford and Norwalk, 1779. Connecticut Line 1781-1783. On roll Feb. 1, 1783. Capt. Chapman's Co. Re-enlisted Jan. 10, 1783, for 3 years, 2nd Regt., Col. Swift, Connecticut Line.
- Uriah Marvin Capt. David Olmsted's Co., Col. Roger Enos' Regt.
- Ezra Mead Capt. David Olmsted's Co., — alarm at Fairfield, 1779. Buried at Titicus.
- Jeremiah Mead Capt. Gamaliel Northrop's Co., 1776, 6th Co., 1st Battalion, Wadsworth's Brigade, Col. Silliman. Buried at Titicus.
- Matthew Mead Capt. Gamaliel Northrop's 6th Co., 1st Battalion, Wadsworth's Brigade, Col. Gold S. Silliman. May, 1775, Capt. Ichabod Doolittle's 7th Co., 5th Regt.
- Thomas Mead 1780, Capt. David Olmsted's Co., Col. Beebe's Regt. 1781, Capt. Beardsley's Co., Col. Jonathan Dimon. 1783, Capt. Robertson's Co., Col. Swift's Regt. Married Ellen, daughter of James Ressegue.
- Stephen Meeker (also given in lists from Redding). Served under Lafayette, Connecticut Line, 1781-1783.

William Mitchell	Capt. Knowles Sears' Co., Connecticut Line, Col. Nehemiah Beardsley.
Absalom Mooney	Line, Col. Nehemiah Beardsley. enlisted July 25, 1780, 2nd Regt., Connecticut Line. Disch. Oct 1, 1780. 1st Co., Col. Zebulon Butler.
John Mooney	enlisted July 1, 1780, 2nd Regt., Connecticut Line. Disch. Dec. 13, 1780. 1st Co., Connecticut Line, Col. Zebulon Butler.
John Morris	Capt. Isaac Hine's Co., Col. Nehemiah Beardsley. Alarm at Fairfield, Norwalk and Bedford.
Hial Morris	Capt. David Olmsted's Co., alarm at Fairfield, 1779.
Archibald Mott	enlisted July 20, 1780, for 3 years. Time expired July, 1783. Capt. Wright's Co., Col. Heman Swift, 2nd Regt., Connecticut Line. Feb. 1, 1783, Capt. Peter Robinson's Co.
Abraham Nash	Sergt., Capt. Isaac Hine's Co., Col. Nehemiah Beardsley — alarm at Fairfield, Bedford and Norwalk, July, 1779.
Ezra Nash	Capt. David Olmsted's Co., Col. Nehemiah Beardsley, alarm at Fairfield, 1779.
Isaiah Nash	July 1, 1780-Dec. 13, 1780. Col. Bradley's 1st Co., Connecticut Line.
Jacob Nash	Sergt., Capt. David Olmsted's Co., Col. Nehemiah Beardsley. Alarm at Fairfield, July, 1779. Killed by

- the British at the burning of Norwalk, July 11, 1779. Buried at Ridgefield.
- Jonathan Nash Capt. David Olmsted's Co., Col. Nehemiah Beardsley. Alarm at Fairfield, Bedford and Norwalk, 1779.
- Riah Nash born 1763. Enlisted in Levies July 1, 1780. Disch. Dec. 13, 1780. 5th Regt., Connecticut Line, Col. Philip Burr Bradley.
- Jonathan Newman enlisted Jan. 1, 1781, for 3 years, Connecticut Line. On roll of Capt. Samuel Comstock's Co., 2nd Regt., Connecticut Line, Col. Heman Swift. 1782, Capt. Samuel Lawrence's Co. of Salem.
- William Newton Capt. Knowles Sears, Col. Nehemiah Beardsley, Connecticut Line, 1777-1781.
- James Nichols Capt. Gamaliel Northrop's 6th Co., 1st Battalion, Wadsworth's Brigade, Col. Silliman, Connecticut Line, 1776.
- Barrack Nickerson enlisted June 8, 1777, for the war in Capt. Joseph Hait's Co., 5th Regt., Col. Philip Burr Bradley, Connecticut Line. Served in Capt. John St. John's Co., under Lafayette at Yorktown, Va., also Capt. Knowles Sears, Connecticut Line, 1779.
- Eliphaz Nickerson enlisted May 18, 1775, in Capt. Ichabod Doolittle's Co., enlisted Jan. 4, 1777, in Capt. Ezekiel Sanford's Co. for 3 years, 5th Regt.,

- Aaron Northrop Connecticut Line, Col. Philip Burr Bradley. Capt. Knowles Sears' Co., Connecticut Line, 1779.
- Abijah Northrop Capt. Isaac Hine's Co., Col N. Beardsley's Regt. Alarm at Fairfield, Bedford and Norwalk, July, 1779.
- Benajah Northrop born March 2, 1751. Died Oct., 1779, in New York, while a prisoner of the British.
- Benjamin Northrop 6th Co., 1st Battalion, Wadsworth's Brigade.
- Capt. Gamaliel Northrop Fought in Battle of Ridgefield — Taken prisoner.
- 1776, Capt. of Co., 1st Battalion, Wadsworth's Brigade, Connecticut Line — at White Plains. (Raised by Legislature to reinforce Washington's Army at N. Y.) Lt. 4th Co., Capt. J. Hait, 7th Regt., Col. Chas. Webb, Sullivan's Brigade, Connecticut Line, July 6, 1775. Disch. Dec. 23, 1775. Re-entered service, 1776.
- James Northrop Fought in Battle of Ridgefield — Taken prisoner by the British.
- Josiah Northrop Capt. David Olmsted's Co., Alarm at Fairfield.
- Matthew Northrop Corp., 7th Co., Capt. Ichabod Doolittle, 5th Regt., Col. Waterbury. Died May 22, 1829, aged 80 years, 1 month, 5 days.
- Nathaniel Northrop Capt. Gamaliel Northrup's Co., 1776, 6th Co., 1st Battalion, Wadsworth's Brigade, Col. Gold S. Silliman.

Stephen Northrop	soldier in Revolution 1 yr., 9 mos. Born Jan. 22, 1759, at Ridgefield. Died at Munson, Ohio, Oct. 17, 1831. Service unobtained.
Daniel Olmsted	Capt. Isaac Hine's Co., Alarm at Fairfield, 1779.
Capt. David Olmsted	Alarm at Fairfield, 1779. Col. Roger Enos' Regt. on the Hudson. Arrived in camp, 1778.
Ebenezer Olmsted	enlisted May 8, 1775. Sergt., 5th Co., Capt. Matthew Mead, 5th Regt., Col. Waterbury. Disch. Dec. 13, — Commissioned 2nd Lieut. Jan. 1, 1777. 5th Regt., Col. Philip Burr Bradley. Resigned Dec. 15, 1777. Ensign, 6th Co., Capt. Northrop, 1st Battalion, Wadsworth's Brigade.
Enoch Olmsted	6th Co., Capt. Northrop, 1st Battalion, Wadsworth's Brigade, Col. Silliman, Connecticut Line, 1776.
Isaac Olmsted	6th Co., Capt. Northrop, 1st Battalion, Wadsworth's Brigade, Col. Silliman, Connecticut Line, 1776.
Jered Olmsted	Ensign, Capt. David Olmsted's Co., alarm at Fairfield, 1779. Died in the war.
Jeremiah Olmsted	Capt. Gamaliel Northrop's 6th Co., Connecticut Line, 1st Battalion, Wadsworth's Brigade.
Joseph Olmsted	paid from July 1, 1780-Dec. 3, 1780, Connecticut Line, 1st Co., 5th Regt., Col. Philip Burr Bradley.
Matthew Olmsted	Capt. John St. John's Co., 5th Regt., Connecticut Line, Col.

- Philip Burr Bradley. Guard over Major Andre at the time of his execution. July 16, 1780-Dec. 9, 1780. Capt. David Olmsted's Co., alarm at Fairfield, 1779.
- Nehemiah Olmsted Connecticut Line 1781-1783. Capt. St. John's Co., Col. Philip Burr Bradley, 5th Regt., July 1, 1780-Dec. 9, 1780. Also Col. Nehemiah Beardsley, Connecticut Line. Enlisted Jan. 1, 1781, for 3 years, Col. Heman Swift, 2nd Regt., Connecticut Line, Light Infantry, 1783.
- Samuel Olmsted Sergt., Capt. Isaac Hine's Co. Alarm at Fairfield, 1779.
- Stephen Olmsted Battle of Ridgefield.
- Daniel Osborn Capt. Isaac Hine's Co., Connecticut Line, 1777-1781.
- Gamaliel Osborn enlisted May 15, 1777. 7th Co., Capt. Ichabod Doolittle, 5th Regt., Col. Waterbury. Disch. Dec. 11, 1775. 1776, Sergt. in Capt. Gamaliel Northrop's 6th Co., 1st Battalion, Wadsworth's Brigade, Col. Silliman. Re-enlisted June 26, 1777, for 8 mos., Capt. Smith's Co., 8th Regt., Connecticut Line, Col. John Chandler. Wintered at Valley Forge, 1777-1778. Wintered at Redding, 1778-1779. Wintered at Morristown, 1779-1780. Wintered at Connecticut Village, 1780-1781. At Germantown, Monmouth and White Plains.

- Jeremiah Osborn** enlisted Jan. 7, 1777, as Gunner in Col. Lamb's artillery. Rose to rank of Sergt. Served as late as 1781. Pensioner in 1840 in town of Fairfield, Conn. Pensioner in 1818. "A Jeremiah Osborn born in Ridgefield Aug. 2, 1757 (unmarried), was killed in the Revolutionary War." — Page 202, Vol. 1, Whitney's Genealogy. Capt. David Olmsted's Co., Connecticut Line, 1779.
- Josiah Osborn** Capt. David Olmsted's Co., Col. N. Beardsley's Regt. Alarm at Fairfield, 1779.
- Joseph Osborn** July 1, 1780-Dec. 13, 1780. Capt. John St. John's Co., 5th Regt., Col. Philip Burr Bradley, Connecticut Line.
- Abraham Parsons** July 20-1781. Capt. Charles Smith's Co., Gen. David Waterbury, State Brigade, Pensioner, act 1832. Was living on Sept. 4, 1851, aged 87 years.
- Bartholomew Parsons** enlisted Mar. 12, 1777, Capt. Sanford's Co. Disch. Mar. 12, 1780. Capt. Northrop's 6th Co., 1st Battalion, Wadsworth's Brigade, Col. Silliman.
- James Patrick**
(Partrick)
Elisha Perry Col. Nehemiah Beardsley, Connecticut Line, enlisted during war. enlisted 1775, continental regt., May, 1779, Col. N. Beardsley, Capt. Jonah Foster's Co., Connecticut Line, 1781-1783.

William Platt	Capt. David Olmsted's Co., Col. N. Beardsley, Connecticut Line, 1779.
Ebenezer Price	Capt. Isaac Hine's Co., Col. N. Beardsley, Regt., — Alarm at Fairfield, Bedford and Norwalk, 1779.
Abel Pulling	1st Militia Co. of Ridgefield, Capt. Ebenezer Jones.
Zalmon Read (probably Redding)	Capt. in Col. Samuel Whitney's 4th Regt. of Guards in Defence of State.
Stephen Remington	Col. Nehemiah Beardsley, Capt. Ichabod Doolittle, May 29, 1775, Continental Regt. Disch. Sept. 17, 1775. Capt. Gamaliel Northrop's 6th Co., 1st Battalion, Wadsworth's Brigade, Col. Silliman, Connecticut Line, 1776. Re-enlisted in Capt. Ezekiel Sanford's Co., Feb. 24, 1777. Disch. Jan. 18, 1780.
Abraham Resseguie	Capt. Isaac Hine's Co., Col. Nehemiah Beardsley, Connecticut Line.
Alexander Resseguie	1st Militia Co. of Ridgefield, Capt. Ebenezer Jones. Capt. David Olmsted's Co. — alarm at Fairfield.
Jacob Resseguie	enlisted May 30, 1775, 5th Cont. Regt., Col. Waterbury, Capt. Ichabod Doolittle's 7th Co. Disch. Dec. 11, 1775.

James Resseguie	Sergt., Capt. Isaac Hine's Co., Col. Nehemiah Beardsley — alarm at Fairfield, Bedford and Norwalk, July, 1779.
Daniel Riggs	Col. Nehemiah Beardsley, Connecticut Line.
John Roberts	Capt. Jonah Foster's Co., Col. Nehemiah Beardsley.
Jabez Rockwell	enlisted Apr. 28, 1777, Capt. Brigham's Co., 8th Regt., Col. John Chandler. Re-enlisted Feb. 16, 1777, 7th Regt., Capt. Elderkin, Col. Swift, Connecticut Line. Disch. Feb. 16, 1780. He inscribed on his powder horn "Jabez Rockwell of Ridgebury, Conn."
James Rockwell	Lieut., Clerk, Capt. Isaac Hine's Co. — alarm at Fairfield, 1779.
John Rockwell	enlisted Feb. 11, 1777, for war. On roll Capt. David Humphrey's Co., 2nd Regt., Col. Heman Swift, Connecticut Line, Feb. 1, 1783. Capt. John St. John's Co., 2nd Regt., Col. Swift, Connecticut Line, paid from Jan., 1781, to Dec. 31, 1781.
Silas Rockwell	6th Co., Capt. Gamaliel Northrop, 1st Battalion, Wadsworth's Brigade, Col. Gold Sillick Silliman, Connecticut Line, along the Hudson, 1778. Also in Capt. David Olmsted's Co. with Col. Enos' Regt. on the Hudson.

- Thaddeus Rockwell Commissioned Lieutenant May 1, 1775, in Capt. Ichabod Doolittle's 7th Co., 5th Regt., Col. David Waterbury. Disch. Sept. 15, 1775.
- Theodore Rockwell Capt. Isaac Hine's Co. — alarm at Fairfield, 1779.
- William Rockwell With Capt. David Olmsted on Hudson, Connecticut Line, 1778. Enlisted July 1, 1780, Capt. David Olmsted's Co., with Col. Enos' Regt. on Hudson. Served throughout the war with the exception of last 6 months.
- John Rumsay
 (Redding) detached from 4th Brigade of the State in order to serve in Continental Army, Gen. Silliman. Enlisted May 21, 1777, Capt Converse's Co., 2nd Regt., Connecticut Line, Col. Swift. Feb. 1, 1783, Capt. Richard's Co.
- Thomas Sagur Capt. Isaac Hine's Co., Connecticut Line, 1777-1781. Also with Col. Nehemiah Beardsley, Capt. Ebenezer Jones, 1st Militia Co. of Ridgefield.
- David St. John Capt. Isaac Hine's Co., Col. Nehemiah Beardsley — alarm at Fairfield, Bedford and Norwalk, July, 1779.
- Capt. John St. John Capt., 5th Company, Col. Philip Burr Bradley, Connecticut Line, 1780, under Gen. Lafayette — in the south — at siege of Yorktown. Had been 2nd Lieut., Capt. Gamaliel Northrop's 6th Co., 1776.

- Thomas St. John Sergt., 7th Co., Capt. Ichabod Doolittle, 5th Regt., Col. Waterbury. Enlisted May 11, 1775. Disch. Dec. 11, 1775. Died July 12, 1816, aged 77 years.
- David Scott Lieut., Capt. Isaac Hine's Co. — alarm at Fairfield, Bedford and Norwalk, July, 1779.
- Gideon Scott Capt. Hine's Co. — alarm at Fairfield, Bedford and Norwalk, July, 1779.
- James Scott Sergt., Capt. David Olmsted's Co., Col. Nehemiah Beardsley — alarm at Norwalk.
- William Scott enlisted Capt. Gamaliel Northrop's Co., 1st Battalion, Wadsworth's Brigade, Connecticut Line, 1776. Also in Capt. Nathan Gilbert's Co., in Oct., 1777, on short campaign at Peekskill.
- Asa Scribner enlisted May 8, 1775, 5th Co., Capt. Mead, 5th Regt., Col. David Waterbury. 1776, Capt. Gamaliel Northrop's 6th Co., 1st Battalion, Wadsworth's Brigade, Connecticut Line.
- Joseph Sears Capt. Jonah Foster's Co., Col. Nehemiah Beardsley's Regt.
- Capt. Knowles Sears enlisted, 1779, in Capt. Ephraim Cook's Co., Col. Nehemiah Beardsley, Connecticut Line. Capt. in Col. John Mead's Regt. — Service in Westchester Co., June 7, 1779.

- Sylvanus Seeley enlisted May 25, 1775. Re-enlisted in Capt. Ichabod Doolittle's Co., enlisted in Capt. Chapman's Co., April 16, 1776 — at Ft. Stanwix — Capt. David Olmsted's Co., Connecticut Line, 1779, Col. Nehemiah Beardsley.
- Abijah Seymour Capt. David Olmsted's Co. — alarm at Fairfield, July, 1779.
- Joseph Shaw Col. Nehemiah Beardsley, Capt. David Olmsted's Co., Connecticut Line, May, 1779.
- Benjamin Sherwood Capt. Isaac Hine's Co., — alarm at Fairfield, July, 1779 .
- Nehemiah Sherwood enlisted Capt. Jonah Lacey's Co., 5th Regt., Col. P. B. Bradley, June 11, 1777, for the war. Enlisted in Levies 5th Regt., July 1, 1780. Disch. Dec. 3, 1780.
- Phineas Sherwood Capt. Ebenezer Curtis' Co., Col. Hinman's Regt., 1775. Capt. Gamaliel Northrop's 6th Co., 1st Battalion, Wadsworth's Brigade, Col. Silliman.
- Azariah Smith Enlisted July 24, 1775, 1st Co., 5th Regt., Col. David Waterbury. Disch. Oct. 8, 1775. Capt. David Olmsted's Co., Connecticut Line along the Hudson, 1778. Disch. Sept., 1778. Pensioner, Act of Congress, 1832.
- Benjamin Smith Capt. Isaac Hine's Co., Col. Nehemiah Beardsley — alarm at Fairfield, Bedford and Norwalk, July, 1779.

- Daniel Smith Corp., Capt. Isaac Hine's Co., Col. Nehemiah Beardsley, alarm at Fairfield, Bedford and Norwalk, July, 1779. Died Oct. 21, 1823, aged 76.
- Elijah Smith Capt. Ebenezer Jones, 1st Militia Co. of Ridgefield, Apr. 24, 1777.
- Hezekiah Smith Capt. Ebenezer Jones, 1st Militia Co. of Ridgefield.
- Jacob Smith, Jr. enlisted from Stamford. Died Apr. 1, 1791, aged 74 years. Buried in Titicus Cemetery.
- Jacob Smith, 2nd Capt. Isaac Hine's Co., Col. Nehemiah Beardsley's Regt. Alarm at Fairfield, Bedford and Norwalk, 1779. Died Mar. 11, 1790, aged 37 years. Buried in Titicus Cemetery.
- Job Smith • enlisted July 14, 1775, Capt. Joseph Hait's 4th Co., 7th Regt., Col. Webb. Disch. Dec. 23, 1775, from Sullivan's Brigade. Ensign Col. Enos' Regt., 1777. Lieut. in Capt. David Olmsted's Co., — alarm at Fairfield, 1779. Disch. Jan. 1, 1780 — also a Major. Buried in Maple-Shade Cemetery.
- John Smith Fought at Battle of Ridgefield. Taken prisoner by the British.
- Joseph Smith Col. Nehemiah Beardsley's Regt., Connecticut Line, 1777-1781.
- Lewis Smith 1775, Continental Regiment.
- Nathan Smith Capt. David Olmsted's Co., alarm at Fairfield, 1779.

Nehemiah Smith	soldier in Revolution. Prisoner and died on the prison ship "Jersey" in New York Harbor.
Samuel Smith	Corp., Capt. Isaac Hine's Co., Col. Nehemiah Beardsley's Regt. — alarm at Fairfield, Bedford and Norwalk, 1779.
Samuel Smith, 3rd	1st Militia Co. of Ridgefield, Capt. Ebenezer Jones.
James Stanton	served in Connecticut Line, 1777-1781, 8th Co., 5th Regt., Col. Philip Burr Bradley.
Joseph Stebbins	Capt. Isaac Hine's Co. — alarm at Fairfield, Bedford and Norwalk, July, 1779.
Samuel Stebbins	Capt. John St. John's Co., 5th Regt., Col. Philip Burr Bradley, July 19, 1780-Dec. 2, 1780.
Thomas Stebbins	enlisted June 2, 1775, Capt. Ichabod Doolittle's 7th Co., 5th Regt., Col. Waterbury. Re-enlisted Nov. 17, 1775, Capt. Elijah Chapman's Co., 2nd Regt., Connecticut Line, Col. Swift. On roll, Feb. 1, 1783.
Nathaniel Sterling (Norwalk)	Capt. Clap Raymond, Col. Mead's Regt., Capt. Gamaliel Northrop's 6th Co., 1st Battalion, Wadsworth's Brigade, Col. Silliman, Connecticut Line, 1776.
Stephen Stillman	enlisted Feb. 1, 1777, Capt. Joseph Hait's Co. Died Jan. 24, 1778.
Justus Stockham	(deserter), enlisted 4th troop Sheldon's Dragoons, Sept 2, 1779. Deserted 1780.

John Street	Sergt., Capt. Knowles Sears Co., Col. Nehemiah Beardsley's Regt., also Capt. Ichabod Doolittle's 7th Co., 5th Regt., Col. Waterbury.
Albert Stuart	Capt. Gamaliel Northrop's 6th Co., 1st Battalion, Wadsworth's Brigade, Col. Silliman, Connecticut Line.
Thaddeus Sturgis	Capt. Isaac Hine's Co. — alarm at Fairfield, Bedford and Norwalk, July, 1779. Also Capt. Ichabod Doolittle, 7th Co., 5th Regt., Col. Waterbury.
Josiah Taylor (Norwalk)	Capt. Ozias Marvin's Co., Col. Mead's Regt., Connecticut Line.
John Thomas	Corp., Capt. Gamaliel Northrop's 6th Co., 1st Battalion, Wadsworth's Brigade, Col. Silliman, Connecticut Line, 1776.
Joseph Trowbridge	Capt. Gamaliel Northrop's 6th Co., 1st Battalion, Wadsworth's Brigade, Col. Silliman, Connecticut Line, 1776.
Aaron Tuttle	Capt. Stephen Bett's 1st Regt., Col. Samuel B. Webb, 1781-1783, Connecticut Line. Also in Col. Hazen's Regt. Served at Brandywine, Germantown, Monmouth and Yorktown.
Peter Tuttle	Capt. Gamaliel Northrop's 6th Co., 1st Battalion, Wadsworth's Brigade, Col. Silliman. Capt. Ozias Marvin's Coast Guard Co., Feb. 18, 1782.

Michael Warren	1st Militia Co. of Ridgefield, Capt. Ebenezer Jones, April 24, 1777.
Thomas Wason	Col. Nehemiah Beardsley, Connecticut Line, Capt. David Olmsted's Co., May, 1779.
Eleazer Waterous	Capt. Gamaliel Northrop's 6th Co., 1st Battalion, Wadsworth's Brigade, Col. Silliman, Connecticut Line, 1776.
Lieut. John Waterous	Record unobtained.
Elijah Weed	Capt. Isaac Hine's Co., Col. N. Beardsley's Regt. Alarm at Fairfield, Bedford and Norwalk, 1779.
Micajah Weeks	enlisted Jan. 3rd, for the war in the 7th Co., Connecticut Line, 1779, Capt. Isaac Hine's Co., Col. Nehemiah Beardsley. On Roll Capt. Peter Robertson's Co. 2nd Regt., Col. Swift.
Zophar Weeks	Capt. Gamaliel Northrop's 6th Co., 1st Battalion, Wadsworth's Brigade, Col. Silliman, Connecticut Line, 1776.
Charles White	Col. Nehemiah Beardsley's Conn. Line, Capt. David Olmsted, May, 1779.
Israel White	enlisted 1776, in Capt. Gamaliel Northrop's 6th Co., 1st Battalion, Wadsworth's Brigade, Col. Silliman, Connecticut Line. Also served in Capt. Seymour's Co., Disch. Dec. 24, 1776.

- Hezekiah Whitlock Capt. Gamaliel Northrop's 6th Co., 1st Battalion, Wadsworth's Brigade, Col. Silliman, Connecticut Line, 1776.
- Robert Whitlock 1st Militia Co. of Ridgefield, Capt. Ebenezer Jones.
- Thaddeus Whitlock enlisted July 22, 1775. Disch.
(erroneously spelled Dec. 23, 1775. Capt. Joseph
Wheelock on mon- Hait's 4th Co., 7th Regt., Sulli-
ument) van's Brigade. Served at New
York in Capt. Comstock's Co., 9th
Regt. Disch. Aug. 11, 1776. In
1779, with Col. Philip Burr Brad-
ley, 5th Regt., Connecticut Line.
- Ezekiel Whitney Capt. Gamaliel Northrop's 6th
(Ridgebury) Co., 1st Battalion, Wadsworth's
Brigade, Col. Silliman, Connecti-
cut Line, 1776. Re-enlisted Jan. 4,
1777, Capt. Sanford's Co. Taken
prisoner at Germantown, Oct. 4,
1777. Returned July 21, 1778.
2nd Co., Col. Johnson, 5th Regt.,
Connecticut Line, Col. Philip Burr
Bradley, July 1, 1780-Oct. 26,
1780. Disch. Jan. 4, 1780. Capt.
Chas. Smith's Co., State Brigade,
Gen. David Waterbury, Apr. 16,
1781. Also served with Capt.
Knowles Sears.
- Capt. Henry Whitney enlisted May, 1775, in 7th Co.,
Capt. Ichabod Doolittle. 5th
Regt., Col. Waterbury. Ensign,
1777, 8th Co., 16th Regt., Capt.,
1781, 8th Co., 16th Regt.

- Josiah Whitney enlisted Feb. 19, 1778, for war, 2nd Regt., Col. Swift, Capt. John St. John's Co., Connecticut Light Battery. Served under Gen. Lafayette at Yorktown.
- Thomas Whitney Col. Nehemiah Beardsley, Connecticut Line. Served in Capt. Knowles Sears' Co.
- Henry Williams Capt. Isaac Hine's Regt., Connecticut Line, Col. Nehemiah Beardsley, 1779. Enlisted Feb., 1781, for the war.
- Ezekiel Wilson Capt. Isaac Hine's Co. Alarm at Fairfield, July, 1779. In 1840, living at age of 90 at Catskill, N. Y.
- Robert Wilson Connecticut Line, 1781-1783, Capt. David Olmsted's Co. Alarm at Fairfield, 1779. On roll Feb. 1, 1783, Capt. Robertson's Co., enlisted Jan. 1, 1781, for 3 years, 2nd Regt., Col. Swift.
- Thomas Wilson Pensioner, Act of 1832. Living in Ridgefield, 1851, aged 94.
- Thomas Woodbridge Enlisted May 14, 1775, in Capt. Matthew Mead's 5th Co., 5th Regt. Capt. Gamaliel Northrop's 6th Co., 1st Battalion, Wadsworth's Brigade, Col. Silliman, Connecticut Line, 1776. Re-enlisted April 1, 1777, for war. Served in Capt. Wright's Co., Connecticut Line, Col. Heman Swift. Paid to Sept. 21, 1781.

Solomon Wran enlisted Jan. 1, 1781, for war. Served till 1783. Capt. James Morris' Co., 2nd Regt., Col Swift. Paid from June 30, 1781. Was also in Capt. Munson's Co., 2nd Regt., Connecticut Line, Col Herman Swift and Capt. Knowles Sears' Co., Col. Nehemiah Beardsley, May, 1779, Connecticut Line.

The list of members of the Society of the Cincinnati from Ridgefield are as follows:

Colonel Philip Burr Bradley
Lieutenant James Dole
Lieutenant Elijah Janes
Lieutenant Thaddeus Keeler
Lieutenant Joshua King
General Rufus H. King
Lieutenant Rufus H. King, Jr.



MAJOR-GENERAL BENEDICT ARNOLD
who led the patriots against the British in the conflict in Ridgefield Village.

CHAPTER XVI

THE STEBBINS HOUSE

Benjamin Stebbins was granted the plot of ground at the head of Main Street by the proprietors upon his arrival in Ridgefield, and in 1721 he was participant in the division of land in the third purchase from the Indians.

In 1727 he built the house, then the finest residence in the village. At that time the highway passed in front of the house, and then turned to the north, coming out near the corner of Pound Street, which at that time was a continuation of Main Street. The rocks west of the house were later cut through to straighten the Main Street.

In its day, the Stebbins house was one of the famous buildings for miles around. The old house was scarred with cannon shot, and bullet holes were seen by the scores, and in many instances the bullets themselves were plainly visible embedded in its timbers. In the chapter on the battle of Ridgefield a description is given of the fortification at this point, and the use of the house in forming a part of the barricade. Its owner never dreamed it was to play such an important part in the defense of Ridgefield.

In 1714, Benjamin Stebbins of Northampton, Massachusetts, came to Ridgefield. He followed Reverend Thomas Hawley, an old neighbor. Mr. Stebbins was a tanner, and a man of his trade was greatly needed in the growing settlement.

In 1892, the late George M. Olcott built the dwelling which at the present time stands upon the Stebbins lot. He called his new home Casagmo. The gardens, which now lie on the western side of the house, were made on the site of the old colonial vegetable and fruit garden of Squire Stebbins. Along the fence grew lilacs, large, white

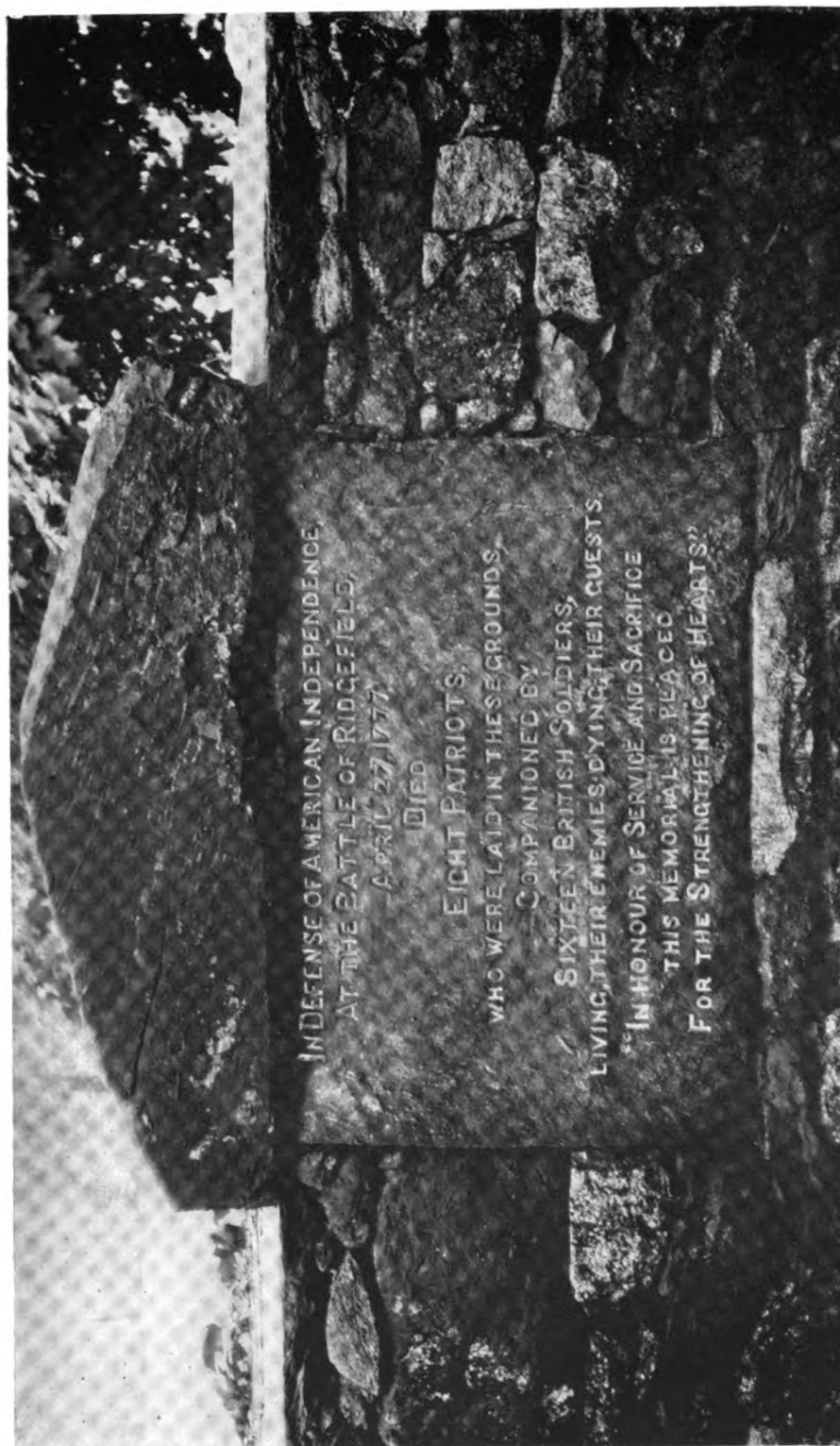
and purple, which hung for quite one hundred and eighty-five years along the roadside, until in 1912 the exigencies of traffic demanded the widening of the street.

The great lilacs and their seedlings were successfully transplanted within the new stone wall, still to hang over the sidewalk, and to mark the boundaries of Casagmo as they had marked those of the Homestead in Squire Stebbins' day.

During the lifetime of the old Stebbins Homestead its garden lay eastward and northward from the house, while the flower garden ran on either side of the walk from the front door to the street, as was the New England way, spreading gradually back a little as it slowly grew with the years, and ending in a bit of boxwood and shrubbery that separated it from the fruit orchard of which a few old and gnarled and gaunt trees remain.

Samuel Goodrich, "Peter Parley," who wrote of the Ridgefield of his day, in his "Recollections of a Life Time" written in 1855 to his brother, tells us that "Master Stebbins' House — from its elevated position at the head of the street, seeming like the guardian genius of the place — still stands, venerable alike from its dun complexion, its antique form, and its historical remembrances. Its days may be set at a hundred years, and hence it is an antiquity in our brief chronology. It almost saw the birth of Ridgefield; it has probably looked down upon the building of every other edifice in the street. It has presided over the fight of 1777. Close by, Arnold's horse was shot under him, and he, according to tradition, made a flying leap over a six-barred gate and escaped.

"The old house I found embowered in trees — some, primeval elms, spreading their wide branches protectingly over the roof, stoop and foregrounds; others — sugar maples, upright, symmetrical, and deeply verdant, as is the wont of these beautiful children of the American forest. Other trees — apples, pears, peaches and plums, bending



IN DEFENSE OF AMERICAN INDEPENDENCE,
AT THE BATTLE OF RIDGEFIELD,

APRIL 27, 1777.

DIED

EIGHT PATRIOTS,

WHO WERE LAID IN THESE GROUNDS,

COMPANIONED BY

SIXTEEN BRITISH SOLDIERS,

LIVING, THEIR ENEMIES DYING, THEIR QUESTS

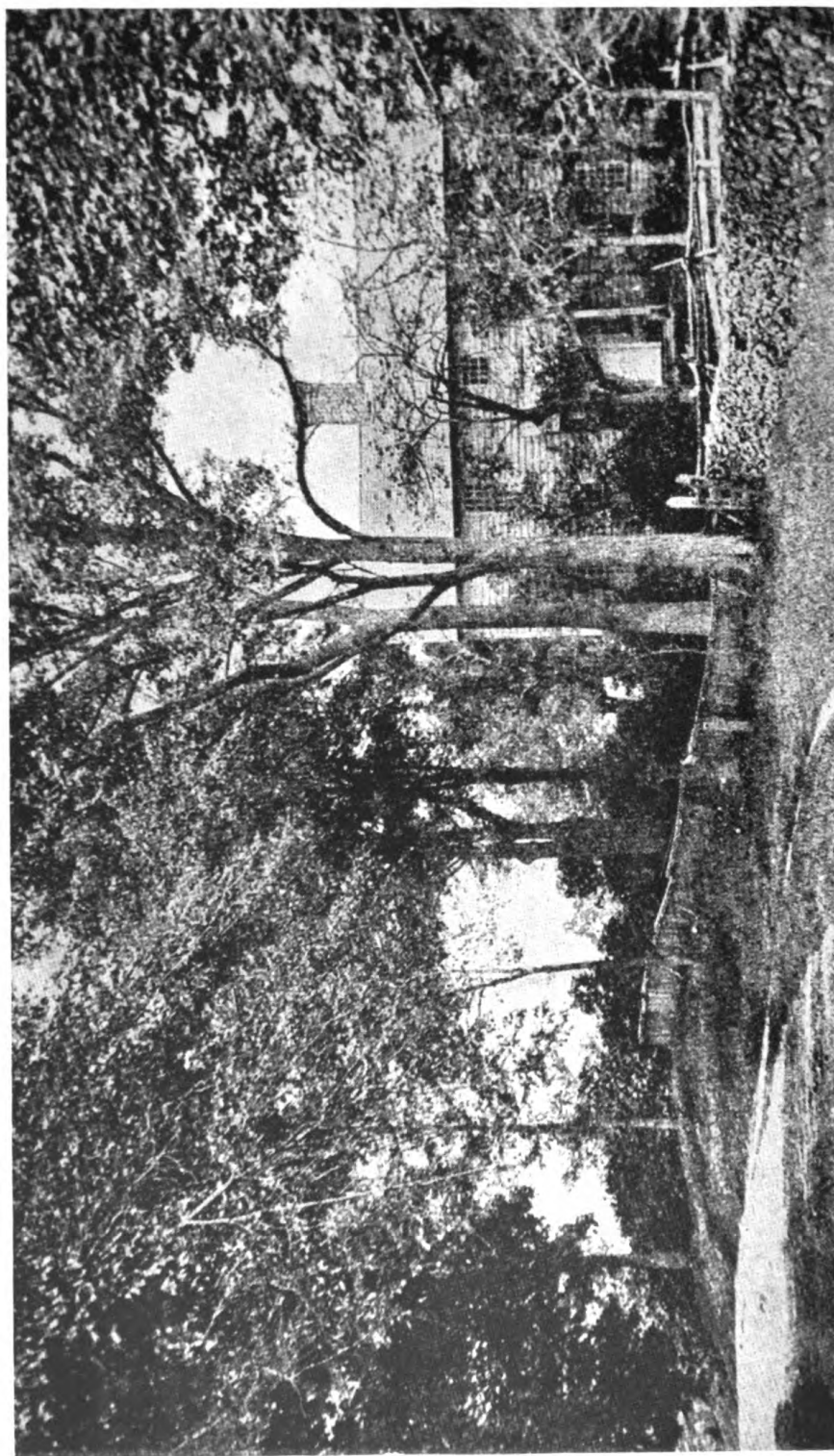
IN HONOUR OF SERVICE AND SACRIFICE

THIS MEMORIAL IS PLACED

FOR THE STRENGTHENING OF HEARTS.

TABLET IN THE WALL ON THE SITE OF THE BATTLE IN RIDGEFIELD STREET.

Erected by Miss Mary Olcott.



STEBBINS HOUSE
front view. (Built in 1727). The road formerly ran in front of this house.

with fruit — occupied the orchard grounds back of the house. The garden at the left seemed a jubilee of tomatoes, beets, squashes, onions, cucumbers, beans and pumpkins. A vine of the latter had invaded a peach tree, and a huge oval pumpkin, deeply ribbed, and now emerging from its bronze hue into a golden yellow, swung aloft as if to proclaim the victory. By the porch was a thick clambering grapevine, presenting its purple bunches almost to your mouth, as you enter the door. I knocked, and Anne Stebbins, my former school-mate, let me in."

The site of the old house, torn down, alas! in 1892 to make room for necessary improvements, was marked by Mr. and Mrs. Olcott by an American beech and a Wier's Cutleafed maple, while in the present house remain the Colonial cupboards, crane and fire-irons from the old Homestead, as well as the buttery door through which several shots were fired by the British, while Queen Anne and King George money, and buttons from the coats of British soldiers were found in digging roadways and foundations for the gate-house. The dead lie buried between the gate-house and the stone wall, and are commemorated in the memorial built into the wall upon the street.

In the course of the two hundred and thirteen years since the allotment of the land, but two families have occupied these acres, the Stebbins family from 1714 till 1897, and the Olcotts thereafter; and the history is the more interesting in that Mrs. George Olcott was lineally descended from that Governor Benedict Arnold of Rhode Island who was the grandfather of General Benedict Arnold, who at the Battle of Ridgefield, with General Wooster held back the British for a time from their devastating course through the village to Long Island Sound. After being unhorsed, Arnold escaped through Squire Stebbins' cowpath, to continue the fight along the village street and the following day until the British embarked at Compo. The wounded and dying, both American and British, were

laid in the old parlor of the Homestead, and the dead buried in the grounds.

In the new gardens, built in 1912, the old hearth-stone bearing date of 1727, lies beneath the entrance gateway and in the walls of the second terrace, while the original cow-path remains the main pathway from the house to the tea-terrace, which is shaded by a seedling, tall now, and spreading like a roof, from the original maples of which Mr. Goodrich writes.

The present gardens are of a formal type, acting as out-of-doors rooms to the house, and are divided into three terraces, the first two of which are on the site of the old vegetable garden of Revolutionary times. All three are divided by walks and ramps, these ramps being perhaps, the first in use in a garden instead of steps to lead from one level to another in any garden in America.

In addition to the garden on the site of the old one, there is another for vegetables and cutting flowers, which bears the name "My Mother's Garden," as being especially beloved by each lady of the house. This garden has as guardian an ancient walnut tree, at least one hundred and fifty years old, while in the park below is the dying stump of what was a noble American beech, which bore upon its trunk and branches the initials of many of the Stebbins family and some of the Olcotts. This beech was said to be the oldest between Ridgefield and Pelham Manor, having, as its rings attested, when it fell in a great storm of wind and rain, lived through not only the Revolutionary War, but the full Colonial period into that of the Indians of the wild.



CASAGMO
Residence of Miss Mary Olcott.

CHAPTER XVII

WAR OF 1812

The patriotism ever shown by the citizens of Ridgefield came to the front during the War of 1812. Although removed from the immediate scenes of action, deep feeling was aroused on account of the oppressions by Great Britain, and a goodly number of Ridgefield men enlisted in defence of the youthful Republic, now struggling to maintain the independence so recently and dearly bought.

The list of those who served from our town is incomplete, and careful research fails to definitely give full credit to the men of our town who took an active part in this conflict. A few of the names in the list that otherwise would be lost have been found in family records. In Ridgefield, as elsewhere, there was the "peace party," men who were opposed to the war. There were but few in this group, and their influence amounted to nothing.

The town was so thoroughly roused that in 1813 a great celebration was held. Through the care of the late William A. Gilbert, a document relating to this celebration was preserved. It gives us much information as to the spirit of Ridgefield at that time. The celebration was planned by a number of citizens of the First Society, although the Second Society of Ridgebury undoubtedly participated in the affair.

The committee arranging the celebration gathered at the Amos Smith tavern on June 7th, 1813, and appointed John Benedict, Chairman, and William Hawley, Clerk of the Committee. The celebration was arranged for the Fourth of July, which occurring on a Sunday that year, the "Peace Party" as an excuse, refused to have anything to do with the affair unless it was postponed to Mon-

day, the fifth. It was voted to go ahead and hold the celebration as planned, regardless of the advocates of peace. An interesting program was prepared and permission was obtained to use the meeting house for the day. Abner Gilbert read the Declaration of Independence, and William Hawley, Washington's Farewell Address. John Perry read the toasts of the day, and, unfortunately, they are not given in the report. Doubtless they would give us much of the personal element of the day, had they been recorded.

A military demonstration was a part of the proceedings, and Captain Samuel Gruman, Azariah Smith, and Captain John Watrous, Jr., had charge of this matter. Abner Gilbert, Jr., William Hawley, Bradley Lee and Stephen C. Lynes were appointed a committee "to make arrangements and collect subscriptions to defray expenses, collect toasts, engage music, provide powder, and all necessary articles for said celebration." John Watrous, Jr., and Elijah Hawley were appointed a committee to procure the orator, but no mention is made of the person selected. Captain Daniel Bouton was requested to be in attendance with his "troop of horse." Captain Bouton and Daniel Lee were appointed "officers of the day." The expenses of the fund were generously subscribed by the following people. The complete list is given:

Joshua King	Ezra Benedict, Jr.	William Crocker
Nehemiah Perry	William Smith	Burr Banks
Josiah B. Benedict	Robert Riley	J. Nash
Benjamin Jones	William Vail	Daniel Dean
John F. King	Lewis Kellogg	Thomas Couch
Abner Gilbert, Jr.	Amos Baker	Ezra Benedict
Rufus H. King	Aaron Resseguie	James Resseguie
Caleb Gruman	Robert Duffin	Edward Jones, Jr.
Moss Ingersoll	Nehemiah Banks,	Walter Staples
Jonathan Beers	Jr.	William Hawley
Uriah Seymour	Abner Gilbert	Noah Smith

Preserved Taylor, Jr.	Thomas Buckley	Josiah Mead, 3rd
Bradley Hull	Joel Merchant	Thatcher Hays,
Jesse Smith	Benjamin Delevan	Esq.
Philip Lobdell	Charles St. John	Capt. Eben Jones
Capt. D. Bouton	Nathan Mallory	Jeremiah Stebbins
Azariah Lee	John Benedict, Jr.	Samuel Kellogg
Abraham Whitlock	Ezekiel Wilson, Jr.	Daniel Lee, Jr.
Josiah Olmsted	Elijah Hawley	Solomon Williams
Daniel Keeler	Nehemiah Mead	Lewis Pickett
Joseph Ingersoll	Richard Randall	Stiles Partrick
John B. Sturges	Benjamin Scott	Thaddeus Whit-
Jabez M. Gilbert	Czar Jones	lock
Amos Northrop	Edmond Beers	Sands Raymond
John Perry	Joseph Ingersoll	Edward C. Mallery
Bradley Lee	Burr Hull	Lyman Mead
James Flynn	Samuel B. Gruman	Thomas Mead
David Rowe	Henry Jarvis	
	Jacob Haviland	

The expenses of the celebration amounted to forty-four dollars and fifty cents, and are as follows:

3½ quarts rum	\$ 1.09
10 lbs. cheese	1.00
1 keg powder	18.25
10 lbs. powder	7.50
Cash pd. Amos Smith	12.16
Cash pd. for music	3.00
Cash pd. William Hawley	1.50
	<hr/>
	\$44.50

A cannon or "field piece" as it was called in those days was bought, the following subscribing to its purchase:

Bradley Hull	Nehemiah Mead	Azariah Smith
Israel Mead	2nd	William Rowe
Preserved Taylor	Abner Gilbert, Jr.	Richard Randall
Doctor J. Wilson	Josiah Mead	Edmond Burr
Uriah Seymour	Abraham Whit-	
	lock	

This document is so beautifully written that it resembles an engraving. It furnishes us a list of the citizens of the time who were active in the affairs of Ridgefield, and for this reason alone is a very valuable contribution to history.

Many of the soldiers from Ridgefield in this war served at Stonington and New London. Ridgebury furnished several who were stationed at these places. While there, they were visited by Mrs. Sarah Forrester of Ridgebury, widow of William Forrester, called by her neighbors, Aunt Sarah. Mrs. Forrester was peculiar, and had a notion that the soldiers at Stonington and New London were starving. Arrayed in her late husband's military coat and hat, she set out on horseback for New London, a cheese in one bag and a ham in another, slung across the horse's shoulders. She arrived safely at camp, stayed all night, and on the next day returned to her home. Mrs. Forrester, whose maiden name was Sarah Rockwell, was over sixty years of age when she took this ride. She was born in Ridgefield, July 24th, 1747.

The following soldiers from Ridgefield were in the War of 1812:

Major Boughton	Musician Captain Ransom C. Canfield's Company, enlisted August 3, 1813, served until September 16, 1813. Service at Stonington and New London.
Walter Dauchy	Captain Eli L. Hawley's Company, enlisted August 3, 1813, served until September 16, 1813. Service at Stonington and New London.
Josiah Dykeman	Captain Eli L. Hawley's Company, enlisted August 3, 1813, served until September 16, 1813. Service at Stonington and New London.

Elisha Hawley	Captain Bates Hoyt's Company, enlisted September 8, 1813, served until September 13, 1813.
Ebenezer Hawley	Service unobtained.
Irada Hawley	Captain of Company A, New York State Regiment.
Burr Hull	Service unobtained.
James Jones	Service unobtained; buried in Florida Cemetery.
Adoniram Keeler	Captain Ransom C. Canfield's Company, enlisted August 3, 1813, 49 days in service. Service at Stonington and New London.
Harvey Rich	Service unobtained.
Zina Saint John	Captain Arnold Foot's Company, service October 24, 1814, to November 15, 1814, at Stonington and New London.
Ezra Smith	Enlisted August 15, 1814. Served until August 25, 1814.
Thaddeus Whitlock	Service unobtained. Son of Thaddeus Whitlock who served from Ridgefield in Revolutionary War.



SARAH BISHOP,
the Hermitess.

CHAPTER XVIII

SARAH BISHOP, THE HERMITESS

During the Revolutionary War there came to Ridgefield from Long Island, Sarah Bishop, a strange, mysterious woman, who chose for her future home a small cave on West Mountain. The story of her weird life has been published at various times. Much has been written in regard to this hermitess, for as such she was known, and her life fully warranted and justified the appellation. The narratives and traditions in regard to the life of Sarah Bishop are generally uniform, and in a measure, the cause of her death, the season in which it occurred and the place generally agree. However, old residents in Ridgefield, still living at the present time, tell different tales as related to them in their youth by the neighbors of the hermitess as to the details of her death.

No better or authentic authority as to the life of this strange character, her customs, habits and her individuality can be found than that of Samuel G. Goodrich, who has given us a fine delineation of her mode of living and her relations with the community in his "Recollections of a Life-Time." In this sketch of his own life, he graphically describes, while on his excursions through West Mountain, visits to her rocky home.

On two occasions, he found her in the cavern. Mr. Goodrich describes this as being entered by a natural door about three feet wide and four feet high. This would incline the visitor of today to imagine that a portion of the rock or soil has fallen away from one side of the cave. The cave is located just over the line in New York State, and close to the dividing line between Lewisboro and North Salem, being situated in the latter town. It is upon

the property of Jonathan Bulkley, and may be approached easily by a wood road which passes along the brow of the mountain directly in front of the cave. A little distance down the hill from the cave is a fine spring of water, near which the hermitess often sat in pleasant weather.

In 1804, Sarah Bishop was visited by a gentleman who published an account of his interview and a description of her home in a Poughkeepsie paper. The account is essentially the same as given by Mr. Goodrich, and in keeping with the traditions handed down by her neighbors to their descendants. Specific mention is made of a little clearing in which were a few peach trees, a few hills of beans, cucumbers and potatoes, the whole being surrounded by a luxuriant grape vine, which over-spread the surrounding trees, and was very productive. Mr. Goodrich relates that luxuriant grapevines clambered up two or three of the forest trees. He further tells us of the visits she made to his home, and her appearance upon the streets of the village. A portion of his description is as follows:

"This strange woman was no mere amateur recluse. The rock — bare and desolate — was actually her home, except that occasionally she strayed to the neighboring villages, seldom being absent more than one or two days at a time. She never begged, but received such articles as were given to her. She was of a highly religious turn of mind, and at long intervals came to our church, and partook of the sacrament. She sometimes visited our family — the only one thus favored in the town — and occasionally remained over night. She never would eat with us at the table, nor engage in general conversation. Upon her early history she was invariably silent; indeed, she spoke of her affairs with great reluctance. She neither seemed to have sympathy for others, nor ask it in return. If there was any exception, it was only in respect to the religious exercises of the family; she listened intently to the reading of the Bible, and joined with apparent devotion in the morning and evening prayer. I have very often seen this eccentric personage stealing into church, or moving



CAVE OF SARAH BISHOP
on West Mountain as it appears at the present writing.



THE VILLAGE STREET,
1900.

along the street, or wending her way through lane and footpath up to her mountain home. She always appeared desirous of escaping notice, and though her step was active, she had a gliding movement, which seemed to ally her to the spirit world."

Although Mr. Goodrich speaks of her visits to the house of his parents as the only "place in town thus favored," he probably referred to the homes in Ridgefield village. The hermitess often visited neighbors on West Mountain and in South Salem. She also attended the Presbyterian Church in South Salem. It is asserted that she kept a few fine dresses, some of them of rich silk, at the home of Jared Hoyt, who lived on the corner of the South Salem and Lake Waccabuc roads. The hermitess would stop here and exchange her old clothes for one of the fine dresses. Upon her return from church she would again stop, and discard her good clothes, and once more don her tattered garments.

Sarah Bishop was loath to relate her early history. It is known that she was of a good family, and that her home was on Long Island. It is believed that she selected her lonely home on West Mountain from the fact that a fine view of Long Island Sound could be obtained from the high point of land just above the cave. On clear days a wide sweep of the water stretched out before the eye and the Island itself was plainly visible. It is thought that the portion of Long Island thus seen was near the home of her girlhood days.

From old residents is handed down the tale that Sarah Bishop was in love with a sea captain who, it is said, deserted her. In any event, the anticipated happy day of her marriage was destined never to arrive, for on one of the excursions of British soldiers through Long Island, her father's house was burned, and to quote from Mr. Goodrich "as this was not enough, she was made the victim of one of those demoniacal acts, which in peace are compensated by the gibbet."

In the year 1810, the sad life of the hermitess ended. History and tradition are at a variance as to the time and cause of her death. The generally accepted story is that one stormy night she left the house of one of the neighbors, who lived on the corner of the road leading up to the mountain. Wending her way up the steep mountain side to her cave, she fell, and too weak to continue her way, perished from the cold. She was found among the rocks, a short distance from her cave. Joseph Knapp, who lived near the state line, has related to his grandson, Eben Bouton, that he was one of those who discovered her lifeless body. She was found among the rocks beneath one of the grape-vines which had overspread a large chestnut tree, a short distance down the hill from her cave. The hermitess was buried in the Episcopal Cemetery in North Salem. No stone marks her grave.

In her lonely life, she cultivated the friendship and confidence of the wild birds and animals of the woods.

Mr. Goodrich wrote a poem on Sarah Bishop which verses were the first that he ever published. For them he claims no praise, nor "rigid accuracy in the delineation of his subject." The poem is indeed worthy of a place in connection with the story of the Ridgefield Hermitess. The verses were first published in "The Mirror" at Hartford in 1823, and are as follows:

For many a year the mountain hag
Was a theme of village wonder,
For she made her home on the dizzy crag,
Where the eagle bore its plunder.

Up the beetling cliff she was seen at night
Like a ghost to glide away;
But she came again with the morning light,
From the forest wild and gray.

Her face was wrinkled, and passionless seem'd,
As her bosom — all blasted and dead —
And her colorless eye like an icicle gleam'd,
Yet no sorrow or sympathy shed.

Her long snowy locks, as the winter drift,
On the wind were backward cast;
And her shrivel'd form glided by so swift,
You had said 'Twere a ghost that pass'd.

Her house was a cave in a giddy rock,
That o'erhung a lonesome vale;
And 'twas deeply scarr'd by the lightning's shock,
And swept by the vengeful gale.

As alone on the cliff she musingly sate
The fox at her fingers would snap;
The crow would sit on her snow-white pate,
And the rattlesnake coil in her lap.

The night-hawk look'd down with a welcome eye,
As he stoop'd in his airy swing;
And the haughty eagle hover'd so nigh
As to fan her long locks with his wing.

But when winter roll'd dark his sullen wave,
From the west with gusty shock,
Old Sarah, deserted, crept cold to her cave,
And slept without bed in her rock.

No fire illumined her dismal den,
Yet a tatter'd Bible she read;
For she saw in the dark with a wizard ken,
And talk'd with the troubled dead.

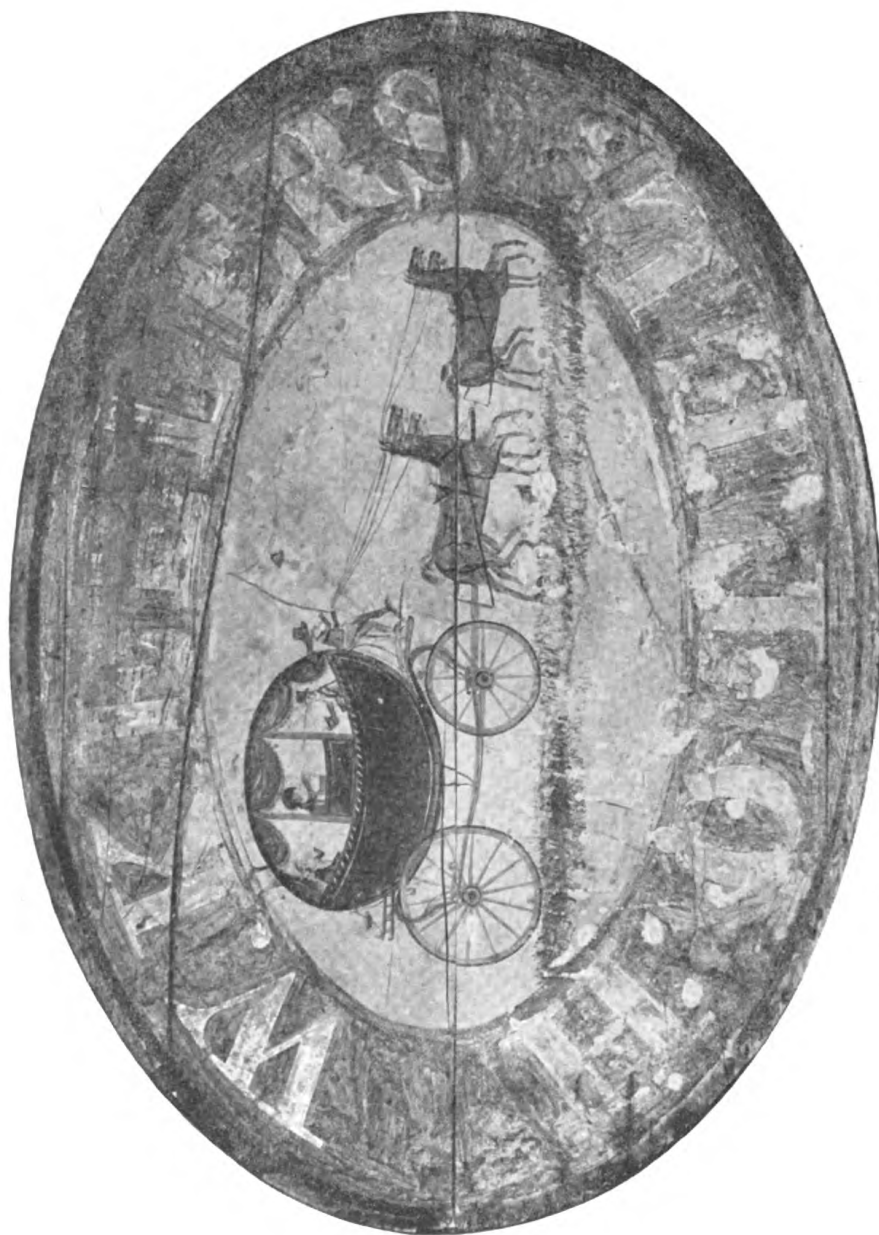
And often she mutter'd a foreign name,
With curses too fearful to tell,
And a tale of horror — of madness and shame —
She told to the walls of her cell!



LICENSE ISSUED TO TIMOTHY KEELER IN 1794
to sell at retail foreign distilled spirituous liquors.



SIGN BOARD AT THE KEELER TAVERN.



SIGN BOARD USED AT THE KEELER TAVERN BY WILLIAM KEELER.

Upon the death of Timothy Keeler in 1815, his son William was appointed Postmaster and also became proprietor of the tavern, conducting this famous hostelry with his sister Anna. William Keeler died October 20th, 1827 at the age of 42. Fifteen months later, February 1st, 1829, Anna married Abijah Resseguie. This sign was found in three pieces by Mr. Gilbert; one in the woodshed and another in the attic of the tavern. After the death of William Keeler the sign board with the horsemen was once more placed in use.

CHAPTER XIX

THE KEELER TAVERN

The principal building of historic interest in Ridgefield today is the Keeler Tavern, now the residence of Cass Gilbert. It stands forth with prominence, linking the period before the Revolutionary War with the present time.

It was built by Timothy Keeler, a grandson of Samuel Keeler, Sr., one of the first proprietors of the town, and kept by him as a tavern years before the Revolution, and until his death in 1815. It stands today in a splendid state of preservation, showing the care and attention that has been given it for over a century and a half.

Following the custom of those days, it was built with the gable end toward the street, a feature distinguishing an old house. It was a gathering-place for the people, as balls, entertainments, parties and other social functions were held there. Squire Keeler, beside being proprietor, was the postmaster of the village. He was representative in the state legislature for several terms, and was also justice of the peace.

This tavern was on the direct line of travel between Boston and New York, and its reputation for hospitality and service made it a favorite stopping place for the traveler. The Boston and New York stage coaches swung up to the tavern as they traveled this great thoroughfare of that day, and changed horses while the passengers refreshed themselves.

The old swinging sign was a welcome sight as the approach to the tavern was made. This old sign was erected in 1794, and swung to the breezes until 1856, when it was removed. For many years a stick of timber held the sign in its place, the stick being placed in a crotch of

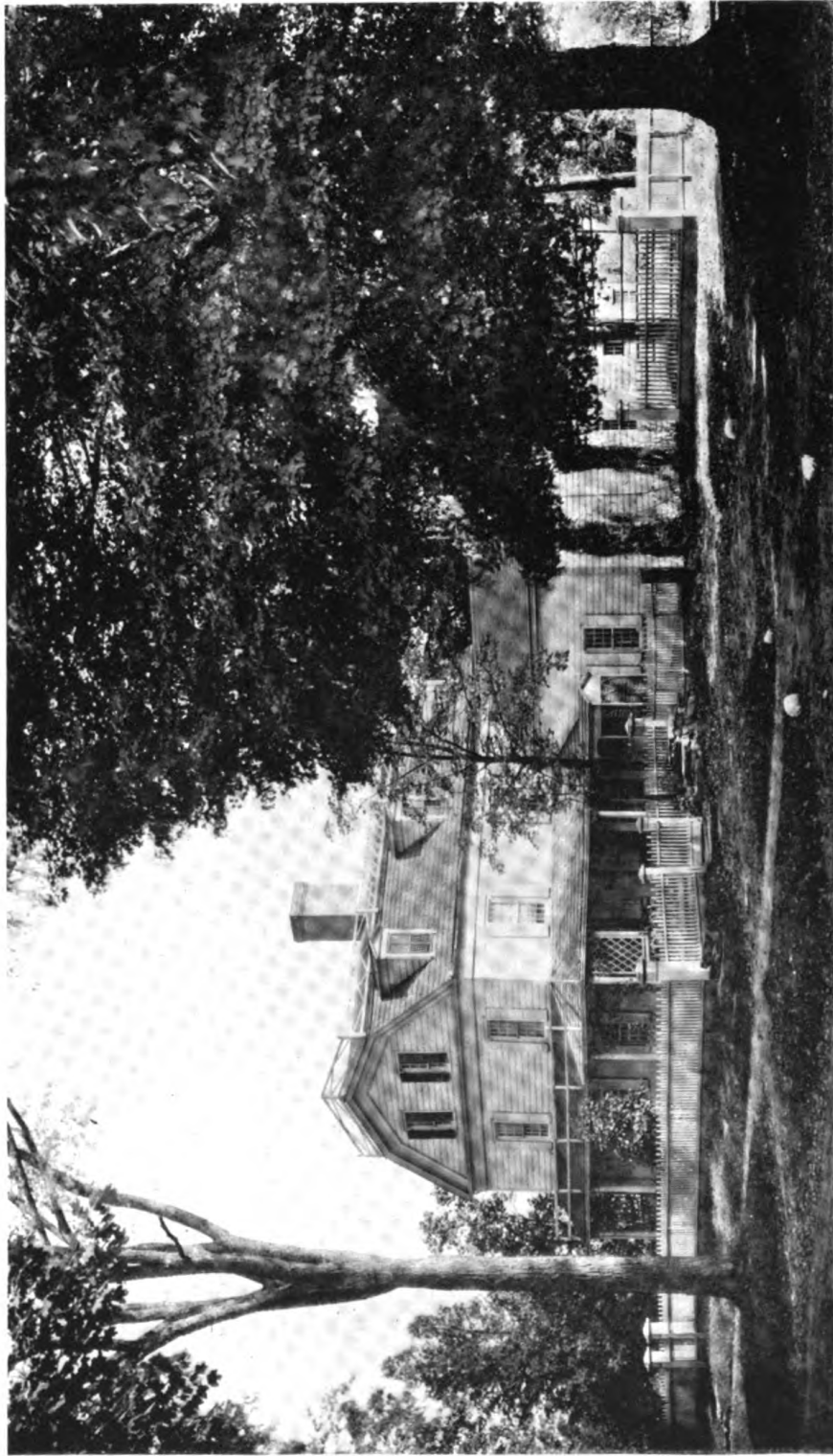
the elm tree which stands today in front of the house. The tree grew around the pole, and for years the embedded end could be seen, where the pole was sawed off when this sign was taken down. On one side of the sign are pictured two Indians on horse-back with T. KEELER in bold letters at the bottom. At the top, in the right and left corners, are two eight-pointed stars. On the other side is a single horseman, a trooper in uniform. The old sign board has four dates upon it, evidently showing how often it was repainted to engage the interest of the traveler.



BRITISH CANNON-BALL
lodged in the timber of the Keeler Tavern.

In those days the wealthier class often traveled in their private carriages. Four days were required to make the trip by stage coach from New York to Boston in ordinary weather. In winter seven days, and sometimes ten days were necessary, when snowstorms and drifts were encountered.

At the battle of Ridgefield several cannon balls entered the building, as it appears to have been the particular object of the British troops to dislodge a few Americans who were reported to have gathered there for the purpose of making cartridges. As a man was ascending the stairs, a cannon ball passed between his legs. As the splinters flew, he fell to the bottom, crying out, "I'm killed, I'm a dead man." When he found he was unhurt, he hurried out and started for Wilton. This ball entered the house over the north door, passed between the man's legs, struck the chimney and fell to the floor. Another cannon ball, embedded in the oak corner post, is one of the historical relics in the United States today. It is in the northeast corner, about six feet from the ground. A shingle with



THE KEELER TAVERN

Now the residence of Cass Gilbert. The old sign swung from a pole placed in the crotch of the elm.

a quaint handle may easily be removed so that the ball may be seen and touched. From the day that the ball was lodged in this timber, it has been the object of great interest and visited by many thousands of people.

Many men of note stopped at the Keeler Tavern. Oliver Wolcott, Secretary of the Treasury in President Washington's cabinet, also in President Adams', Governor of Connecticut and United States Senator, was a guest. He arrived on Saturday night, went to church Sunday morning, but started on his journey after the sermon, much to the regret of many of the inhabitants at this desecration of the Sabbath.

Lieutenant Governor, afterwards Governor, John Treadwell, also arrived here on Saturday night, but on account of public sentiment, delayed his departure until Monday.

Timothy Pickering of Massachusetts, Postmaster General in Washington's Cabinet in his first administration, and Secretary of State in the second, also Secretary of State with President John Adams, stopped here.

In the summer of 1804, Jerome Bonaparte drove up to the tavern in a coach and four, accompanied by his young bride, formerly Miss Elizabeth Patterson of Baltimore, a woman noted for her very great beauty. The coming to Ridgefield of the brother of the great Napoleon caused considerable excitement in the town. At that time Napoleon Bonaparte was in the height of his power and glory. Many other distinguished men stopped at the tavern in later days, among them must be mentioned the great American historian, Benson J. Lossing. Fourteen years after the death of Timothy Keeler, his daughter Anna married Abijah Resseguie. The latter conducted the tavern until his death. He died in his ninety-seventh year.

A description of the interior of this remarkable house will be of interest. The south door seems to have been the entrance used the most, as the post office was kept in

the room into which this door opens. The post office was in the corner nearest the street.

There were three rooms on the first floor, the long room to the south, a sitting room on the west, facing the street, and the dining room in the rear of the sitting room. In each room is a large fireplace. The kitchen was formerly in the long room on the south side. The addition which Mr. Resseguie built in the rear was first used as a store, and afterward as the kitchen.

Mr. Gilbert has extended a wing in the rear of the house following faithfully the architecture of one hundred and fifty years ago. In his dining room hangs the sign which swung in front of the tavern. Much of the antique furnishings of the house still remain just as they were in the days of Squire Keeler and Mr. Resseguie.

CHAPTER XX

THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

The greater portion of the proprietors of Ridgefield were members of the Congregational Church. Coming from Norwalk, where there had been a Church for fifty years, and from Milford, where there was a church still older, it is probable that religious services were held in Ridgefield simultaneously with the settlement of the town. The early records of the Congregational Church having been lost, much of the detail as to its organization in Ridgefield is unknown. However, for many years the records of our town meetings tell us the story of the building of the first church and the struggles of the settlers to complete the work. At the time of the settlement of the town, Reverend Stephen Buckingham was the pastor of the church in Norwalk, and it is probable that he occasionally came to Ridgefield to minister to those who were former members of his church.

The exact time of the organization of the Congregational Church in Ridgefield was probably in 1712. We find that on October 8th, 1712, the General Assembly at Hartford passed the following act:

"Upon the petition of the Inhabitants of the Town of Ridgefield requesting that the charges for the maintenance of the ministry in the said Town of Ridgefield, may be levied in equal proportion upon all the lands belonging to the several proprietors in the said town. This Assembly order that all the lands lying in the Township of Ridgefield be taxed in proportion for four years, towards the settling and maintaining of the ministry in the said Town of Ridgefield."

In the year 1712, Reverend Thomas Hawley, the first pastor, was ordained. The records do not state whether

this ceremony occurred in Ridgefield or elsewhere. It is also uncertain whether he came here in 1712 or 1713, some writers giving the former date and others the latter. But in 1713 he was performing his duties here as pastor, and the following year was elected town clerk or register.

Assuming this date as 1713, Mr. Hawley was twenty-four years old when he came to Ridgefield from Northampton, Massachusetts. He was a graduate of Harvard College in the class of 1709. The town was indeed fortunate in having a man of his attainments and high moral standard as its first pastor. Equally was it fortunate when he was chosen register of the town, as the public records in his own handwriting will attest at the present date. Mr. Hawley married Miss Abigail Gold of Fairfield, and brought his young bride to Ridgefield.

The General Assembly in 1714 granted "unto the Inhabitants of the Town of Ridgefield the right to imbody into Church Estate and settle an orthodox minister among them." Mr. Hawley was pastor until his untimely death on the 8th of November, 1738, in the forty-ninth year of his age. He was the ancestor of the family by that name in Ridgefield, a family that has reflected great credit upon itself and upon the town. There are many descendants of this illustrious man living in Ridgefield at the present time.

After Mr. Hawley's death, the Reverend Nathan Birdsey was invited to be the pastor, but declined. The following year, Reverend Jonathan Ingersoll, a native of Stratford, accepted a call to Ridgefield and was installed on the eighth of August, 1739. He was settled in Ridgefield at the age of twenty-seven. At this installation there were present the following ministers from the Western Association: Reverend Robert Sturgeon, Reverend Moses Dickinson, Reverend Ebenezer Wright, Reverend John Goodsell, Reverend Ephraim Bostwick, and Reverend William Gaylord. The lay delegates were; from Bedford,

Captain Jonathan Miller; Norwalk, John Copp, Esq.; Stamford, Abraham Davenport; Greenfield, Benjamin Banks; Wilton, Benjamin Hickox, Esq. Reverend Mr. Goodsell gave the right hand of fellowship and the Reverend Mr. Dickinson preached the sermon, while Reverend Mr. Sturgeon gave the charge.

Mr. Ingersoll was a graduate of Yale College in the class of 1736. He is described as a man of brilliant intellect, of great strength and force of character. In the years 1758 and 1759 he held a commission as chaplain in the Colonial Regiment under Colonel David Wooster, serving in the campaign of Lake Champlain. An account of his military service is given elsewhere. Mr. Ingersoll died on October 2nd, 1778, in the 65th year of his age, and was laid to rest in the Titicus Cemetery, not far from the grave of Reverend Thomas Hawley. The Church was fortunate in having a man of his character to guide it through the troublesome years at the beginning of the Revolutionary War. Some of his descendants are living in Ridgefield at the present time.

For eight years after the death of Mr. Ingersoll, there was no settled pastor in Ridgefield, but the pulpit was supplied at times by Reverend Justus Mitchell. Mr. Mitchell was ordained pastor of the Congregational Church at New Canaan in 1783. Reverend Izrahiah Wetmore and Reverend Mr. Everett also supplied the pulpit at times during this period.

In its third pastor, the Congregational Society was again most favored in calling the Reverend Samuel Goodrich, which call he accepted and on the sixth day of July, 1786, he was ordained and installed pastor of the church. His father, Reverend Elizur Goodrich, D.D., of Durham, was present. He preached the sermon and gave the charge to his son and the church. Reverend Samuel Goodrich was pastor of the church for twenty-five years. He was a graduate of Yale College in the class of 1783, and at the time

of his coming to Ridgefield was twenty-three years of age. Large additions in membership were made to the church during his pastorate. As the father of Samuel G. Goodrich, Peter Parley, much will found in regard to the life of Reverend Mr. Goodrich in another portion of this volume. At the re-dedication of the church in Ridgefield after its repairs in 1833, Reverend Mr. Goodrich was present and assisted in the services. Mr. Goodrich died in Berlin, Connecticut, April 19th, 1835, in his seventy-third year.

From 1811 until 1817 there was no settled pastor. From 1811 to 1814, the pulpit was supplied by Reverend Jonathan Bartlett, and from 1814 to 1817 by the Reverend John Noyes. During Mr. Bartlett's pastorate, he proposed to the society to raise funds, the annual income of which should be appropriated for the support of the preaching of the gospel. Mr. Bartlett subscribed fifty dollars as an encouragement to others.

On the second of February, 1817, the church invited Mr. Samuel Phelps to become the pastor, but for some reason which does not appear on the church records, the consociation upon convening refused to install him. The church then seceded from the consociation of the Western District of Fairfield County and invited clergy from the Westchester Presbytery to install Mr. Phelps. This was done in June. Mr. Phelps remained as pastor for twelve years, until 1829.

On March 31st, 1831, the church again united with the Western District of Fairfield County. On the same day, they invited Reverend Charles G. Selleck of Darien to become pastor, and he was ordained and installed on May 25th, 1831. Mr. Selleck remained until 1837, when at his special request he was dismissed. His next ministry was the Presbyterian Church in Alton, Illinois. One hundred and eighty persons were added to the church during his ministry in the years, 1831, 1832 and 1833.

Following Mr. Selleck, came Reverend Joseph Fuller, who on the twenty-seventh day of February, 1838, was installed as a pastor. During his ministry of four years, sixty persons united with the church. After the dismissal of Mr. Fuller, the church was without a settled pastor for seventeen months. It was regularly supplied and twenty persons were added during this period.

September 18th, 1843, the church extended a call to Reverend James A. Hawley, and he was installed on October 25th. Mr. Hawley remained until November 5th, 1849, when he was dismissed, and was followed by Reverend Clinton Clark, who was installed June 5th, 1850.

Mr. Clark remained as pastor for fourteen years. On April 5th, 1864, he was dismissed and became acting pastor of the Congregational Church at Middlebury, where he died September 23rd, 1871. His body was brought to Ridgefield, and was interred in the Titicus Cemetery.

As the church had no settled pastor, the Reverend Samuel G. Coe, who recently had removed from Danbury to Ridgefield, was called as its pastor. He preferred not to be regularly settled, and he continued to serve the church as pastor for about three years, when he was forced to give up the work on account of his health.

A call was extended to Reverend Pliny S. Boyd, pastor at Shelburne Falls, Massachusetts, which was accepted, and Mr. Boyd was installed May 11th, 1869. For over two years he served the Society, being dismissed July 1st, 1871, and settled at Amesbury, Massachusetts.

Various clergymen supplied the pulpit, until the coming of Reverend Daniel W. Teller, of Hadlyme, Connecticut, who was called by a unanimous vote to become acting pastor, on February 1st, 1872. Although he was invited to become the settled pastor, Mr. Teller declined, preferring to serve as acting pastor, in which capacity he continued during his entire stay in Ridgefield. In 1878, the church had two hundred and twenty-four members; eighty-

three males and one hundred and forty-one females. In 1878 Mr. Teller published a "History of Ridgefield," a most valuable work, written in refined, cultured style, and containing a fund of knowledge. On October 2nd, 1880, Mr. Teller offered his resignation, after a service of nearly nine years. His farewell sermon was delivered on October 10th, 1880. Upon leaving Ridgefield, he settled in Sherburne, New York. Mr. Teller died March 23, 1894, at Fredonia, N. Y., and is buried in his family plot in the Titicus Cemetery.

On May 21st, 1881, an invitation was extended to Reverend William W. Leete to become acting pastor. Mr. Leete was installed as settled pastor on February 8th, 1882. His venerable father, Reverend Theodore A. Leete, then pastor at Northford, Connecticut, was present upon this occasion. Mr. Leete remained here until 1888, when he tendered his resignation and accepted a call to an important field of labor in Rockford, Illinois. Mr. Leete organized the Young Peoples Society of Christian Endeavor. Largely through his efforts the present church was built. While in Rockford, the degree of Doctor of Divinity was conferred upon Mr. Leete by Galesburg College. During his pastorate, on April 4th, 1883, Mr. Leete married Miss Sarah E. Rockwell, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joel L. Rockwell of Ridgefield.

Following Mr. Leete's dismissal, the church extended a call to Reverend Frank S. Child of New Preston, Connecticut, but the call was declined. On January 26th, 1889, Reverend John W. Ballantine, pastor of the Pilgrim Church, Dorchester, Massachusetts, was called and was installed as acting pastor September 10th, 1889. On August 26th, 1899, Mr. Ballantine tendered his resignation, but remained as pastor until April 3rd, 1900. During his residence in Ridgefield, Mr. Ballantine was a member of the school board and acting visitor, which positions were also held by his predecessor, Dr. Leete.

On September 22nd, 1900, a call was given Reverend A. W. Gerrie, then pastor at West Torrington, Connecticut. Mr. Gerrie remained as pastor until August 28th, 1915. During the pastorate of Mr. Gerrie, the present parsonage was built.

On January 31, 1916, Reverend John Maurice Deyo, then pastor at Plymouth, Connecticut, was called. Mr. Deyo is a graduate of Yale College, and the Yale Divinity School. In 1918 Mr. Deyo was called to Danbury, where he still remains as pastor. On November 24, 1918, a farewell reception was given to Mr. and Mrs. Deyo by his parishioners and friends of other denominations.

In June, 1919, Reverend Hugh Shields came from Stratfield, Connecticut. Mr. Shields began his pastorate the last Sunday in June, 1919. He is a graduate of Butler College, Indiana, Class of 1915; also from Butler College Metropolitan School of Music, Department of Dramatic Art; Yale Divinity School, 1919, receiving the degree of Bachelor of Divinity. Mr. Shields has been eminently successful.

Interesting is the list of fine men who have been chosen to serve the Congregationalists in Ridgefield. The records of the clerks of the Society also show men of a high type and earnest Christian zeal. The first clerk of the Society of whom there is a record is Nathan Smith, who served from 1813 until 1831. His term of service was eighteen years.

William Hawley was chosen clerk December 11th, 1831, and served until March 31st, 1842, — eleven years. Smith B. Keeler served from March, 1842, to March, 1849, — seven years. Jesse S. Bradley was clerk from 1849 to 1854, — five years. Benjamin K. Northrop was chosen clerk, and after a faithful service of fifty years, retired April 4th, 1904. Miss Rebecca Northrop succeeded her father and served from April 4th, 1904, to October 24th, 1913. Abner Keeler was chosen clerk on November 2nd,

1913, and is the present incumbent. A. Reed Northrop is the present church treasurer, and Arthur G. Seymour, Church School Principal.

The first church manual was compiled and printed in 1842, and has been of great service to the Society as a work of reference.

At a meeting of the young ladies of the church held November 17th, 1847, a society was organized to assist in the missionary work of the church. The proceeds derived from their labors were to be used exclusively for charity. This organization was called "The Young Ladies' Missionary Society of Ridgefield." The officers chosen were, First Directress, Miss Sarah A. Smith; Second Directress, Miss Elizabeth Northrop; Secretary and Treasurer, Miss Betsey Keeler. Men as well as women were eligible as members. The membership during the first year (1848) was nineteen women and five men. In 1849 there were twenty-nine members. Special mention is made of an appropriation for "the continuance of the education of a youth at Gaboon, Africa, Station." The records do not state how long this organization continued.

The first meeting house stood near the corner of Branchville Road and Main Street, in front of the present home of the Misses Annie and Ellen Stone. It was just east of the church which was abandoned in 1888. The road ran between the old church and the houses on the east side of the street. This meeting house was used as a school house and town house. On the 19th of December, 1723, action was taken in Town Meeting toward the erection of a meeting house. At this meeting it was voted unanimously that a meeting house should be built. Another resolution passed at this same meeting is as follows:

"At the meeting above said, it was voted unanimously that the magnitude and proportion of the Meeting-house above shall be thirty-four feet wide; on the ground forty feet long, and twenty-eight feet between sill and the plate.

Test, Thomas Hawley, Register."

On November 9th, 1724, the size of the building was changed and several details settled as to the materials entering into its construction. The minutes of this meeting read:

"At a Town Meeting held in Ridgefield November 9, 1724, voted by y^e Majority that a meeting house shall be built y^e magnitude as follows: viz, six and forty feet in length, thirty-four feet in breadth, and twenty foot between y^e still and ye plate.

"Voted Likewise by y^e majority to procure boards this year sufficient for the roof and y^e under floor of said meeting house, and good Chesnut Shingle two foot long for y^e roof, five and six inches wide, one with another and three quarters of an inch at y^e butt, well tapered, or good Cedar Shingle as y^e Committee appointed to see about y^e same shall agree, also to cart all y^e above mentioned particularly to y^e place where y^e Committee shall order it, and Likewise to get good pine boards for y^e Doors. Joseph Keeler, Benjamin Willson and Ebenezer Smith be appointed a committee to take care of y^e above particulars.

"At a Town Meeting held in Ridgefield September 28, 1725, it was voted by y^e majority that y^e spott or plott of ground whereon y^e meeting house shall be set, shall be on y^e west side of y^e westernmost path which runs thro y^e meeting house yard, which lyes next adjacent to y^e corner of Ensign Benedicts home lott. Voted by y^e majority that y^e said house shall be set with y^e ends North and South.

Test. Thos. Hawley Register."

"At ye meeting above said it was voted by y^e majority that ye said house shall be covered with two foot chesnutt shingle. Voted also by y^e majority at y^e meeting above said that in order to y^e erecting y^e meeting house afore-said a rate of Four pounds upon y^e hundred shall be collected by y^e first Monday in March in y^e year 1726, to be raised according to y^e present lists now required by y^e General Court. Voted also that Mr. Osburn and Daniel Olmsted be added to the former Committee which were appointed for y^e service of s^d Meeting house, which Committee are hereby ratified again and Ensign Benedict added to them. At y^e meeting above Richard Olmsted was chosen Collector of y^e meeting house rate voted."

The committee was further authorized to "lay out and improve y^e money for the furtherance of said meeting house till y^e same shall be covered and closed."

"At a Town Meeting held December 13th, 1725, the Town by their major vote do agree and declare that the Sallery which they will give to their present Minister Mr. Thomas Hawley, shall be seventy pounds Current Money of the Government for three years in his next ensuing rates, and at y^e termination of said three years to advance and add ten pounds upon the Sallery years, till it amounts to one hundred pounds, and be continued at said sum during his ministry among them, and if his necessity shall afterward require more and our ability can without burden or unreasonable hardship allow it, we hope for a willingness to do more. The above passed unanimously."

Attest, Thomas Hawley, Register."

At a Town meeting held September 6th, 1726, it was voted by a great majority to raise the sum of one hundred and forty-seven pounds, nine shillings for the further completion of the meeting house. At a Town Meeting held March 5th, 1731, it was voted "that y^e front gallery be seated, two seats in front, and the rest of said gallery shall be filled up with well proportioned pews, and the side galleries shall be furnished with seats throughout and the Town will bear y^e charges thereof." It was also voted that the meeting house be seated anew.

"Voted, that y^e fore seat in y^e front gallery be equal to the third seat in y^e body; and that y^e fore seats in the side gallery be equal to y^e 4th seat in y^e body."

At an adjourned Town Meeting held December 13th, 1742, the town by a majority vote agreed and ordered "that Madame Ingersoll shall have full Liberty and Equal priviledge with Madam Hawley to sit in that Pew y^e Madam Hawley now sits in during y^e Town's pleasure." The above meeting adjourned. (All the business transacted was the above.)

In 1765 the question of building another church was considered as the following minutes will show:



THE OLD CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH ON THE GREEN
to the left is The Hawley Homestead now the residence of Mrs. D. Lucile Lockwood.

"Dec. 25th, 1765. Adjourned to Jany 1st, 1766. The Meeting resolved to Build a New Meeting House within y^e Limits of this Society; & appointed W. L., S. O., B. S., S. S., & I. I; a comtee to apply to ye County Court to fix a place & granted a one penny Tax to defray y^e Charge of fixing y^e place."

What place the County Committee settled upon is not known, but on December 25th, 1767, the Society voted by a great majority against the site the Committee had selected. At this same meeting by a vote of two to one the Meeting House yard was chosen as the site. Other meetings were held in reference to building the new church, but on September 24th, 1770, it was voted that the old church be repaired by subscription.

At a meeting held on May 1st, 1771, it was voted to build a church fifty-eight feet long, forty feet broad, and twenty-four feet posts and steeple. On August 20th, 1771, it was voted "to Raise y^e House Gratis — if cant be done hire help."

This church was finally completed in the early part of 1800. This was the building which was abandoned in 1888. The following is from the Church Records:

"draught of the Pews, Seats and Ailes on ye ground floor of the Meeting House in y^e first Society Numbered with the Names of the original Proprietors, & the present owners, March y^e 22nd A. D. 1800 is as follows:

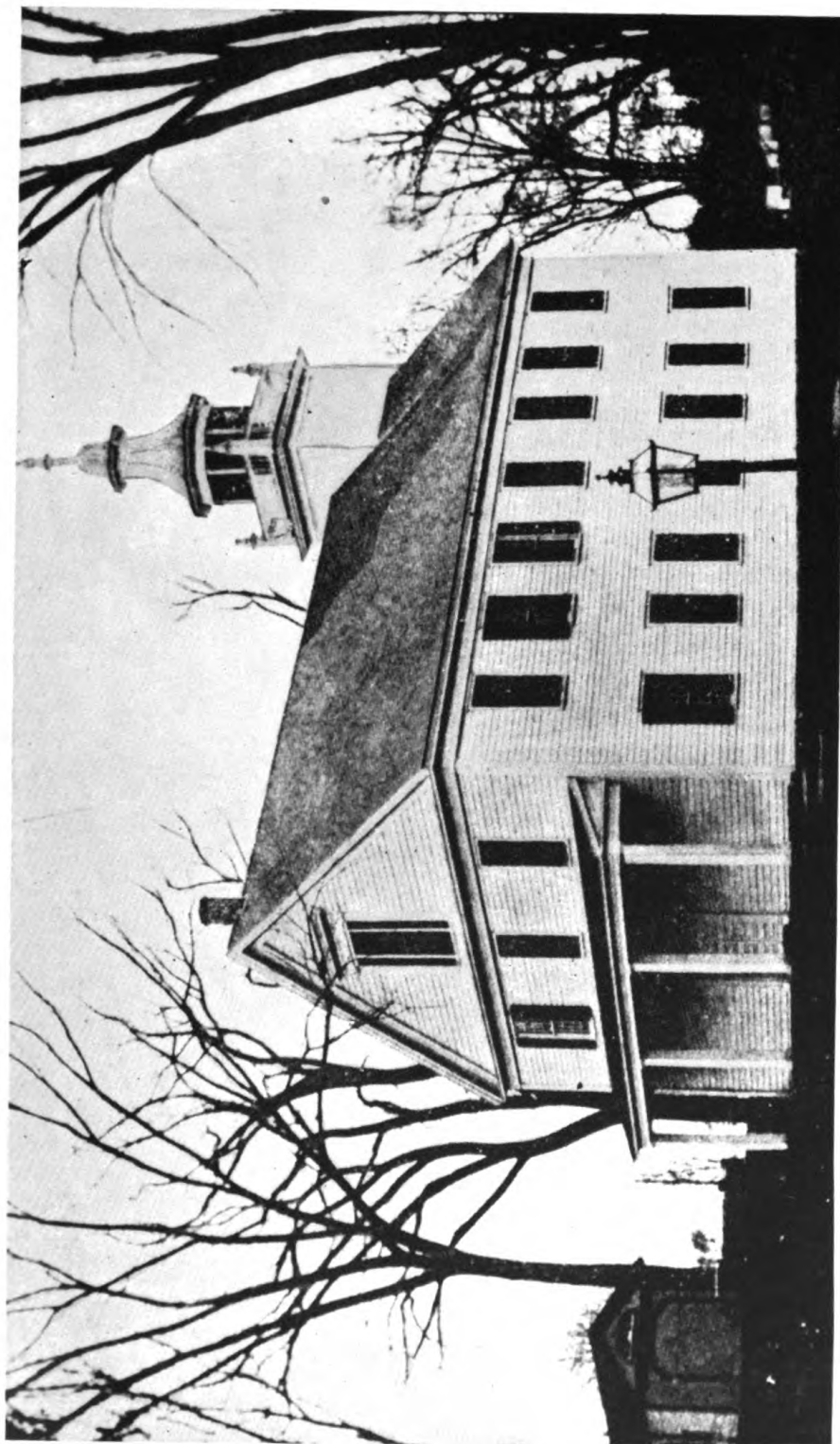
No. 1 Philip B. Bradley	No. 6 Thaddeus Keeler
No. 2 Thomas Hawley	Jeremiah Keeler
Nathan Smith	Benj. Keeler
No. 3 James Resseguie	No. 7 Stephen Smith
Seth Bouton Am-	No. 8 Ebenezer Hawley
brose Barnes	Elisha Hawley
No. 4 Eben Olmsted	No. 9 Timothy Keeler
James Olmsted	Nathan Dauchey
Jeremiah Mead	No. 12 Bradley Hull
Matthew Olmsted	Jeremiah Keeler
No. 5 Daniel Smith	Ward Sturgis
Thomas Hyatt	
Benj. Sherwood	

No. 13	David Scott James Scott 2nd Jere Scott	No. 21	Jasper Mead Matthew Keeler Jonah Keeler
No. 14	Daniel Lee Wakeman Burritt Nehemiah Banks	No. 22	Thaddeus Keeler Dr. Nehemiah Perry
No. 15	Samuel Hoyt Josiah Northrup Nathaniel Seymour	No. 24	Joshua King Moss Ingersoll
No. 16	Uriah Marvin Danl Olmsted 2nd Timothy Bouton	No. 25	Samuel Olmsted Jared Olmsted Newton Hine
		No. 26	Nathan F. Kellogg James Sturgis Jacob Jones

14	13	12	11	PULPIT DEACONS	10	9	8	7
								6
15		29	28		22	23		5
		30	27		21	24		
16		31	26		20	25		4
		17	18	19	No. 1	No. 2	No. 3	

Arrangement on the ground floor

No. 17	Levi Keeler John Keeler Jeremiah Seymour Paul Keeler	No. 27	David Olmsted Benjamin Sanford Timothy Olmsted
No. 18	Deacon Jno. Bene- dict and family	No. 30	Matthew Seymour Thomas Scott Jared Northrop
No. 19	Benjamin Smith Amos Baker		Daniel Smith, 2nd
No. 20	Amos Smith Josiah Smith Thaddeus Smith	No. 31	John Watrous Joseph Benedict



CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
*completed in 1800. An early meeting house in first years of the
American Republic.*

A Plan of the Pews, Seats and Ailes in the Gallorys in the Meeting House in the first Society with the names of the original pewholders & present Proprietors, March 22d A. D., 1800.

No. 2	Levi Keeler	No. 11	Philip B. Bradley
	Hezekiah Smith		Col. King
No. 4	Stephen Mills	No. 12	Matthew Keeler
No. 6	Michael Warren		Jonah Keeler
	Jabez Keeler		Jasper Keeler
No. 7	Daniel Lee		Jesse Benedict
	Wakeman Burritt		

18	Ye front seat re- 2 seat							cians. 2 seat	No. 1
17									2
16									3
15									4
14									5
13									6
		served for musi-							
		2 seat							
		Aile							
		12	11	10	9	8	7		

Arrangement of gallery

No. 8	Nathan Smith	No. 14	Thomas Hyatt
	David Olmsted		John Mills
	Millicent Smith	No. 15	Moss Ingersoll
	N. G. Smith		Joseph Stebbins
	Thomas Hawley	No. 16	Samuel Dykeman
No. 9	John Benedict	No. 17	David Saintjohn
	Jared Olmsted		Jonathan Gilbert
	Danl Smith		Samuel Hoyt, 2nd
	Job Smith	No. 18	Elisha Hawley
No. 10	Timothy Keeler		Ebenezer Hawley
	Benjamin Smith		John Watrous
	Amos Baker		

The foregoing draughts were made by us the Subscribers being appointed a Committee for the purpose this 22nd day of March, A. D. 1800.

Benjamin Smith	} Committee."
Timothy Keeler	
Nathan Smith	

The steeple on the church was observed after a few years to be leaning toward the south. In 1817 it was taken down and the graceful spire which adorned the church for so many years was erected. On January 1st, 1811, Timothy Keeler presented the following bill to the society:

"Jany 21st, 1811

To first Society of Ridgefield to Timothy Keeler	Dr.	
To 20 dinners pr the Consociation	at 37½¢	\$ 7.50
To 4 ditto per the Comtt	" "	1.50
To bating 18 horses	at 8¢	1.44
To keeping 3 horses one night	25¢	.75
To Liquor &c.		3.00
		<hr/>
		\$14.19

Ridgefield Dec. 6th, 1803

Received of Timothy Keeler Societies Treas the Sum of Twenty Dollars and Sixty five cents in full of all dues and demands against the first Society of sd Ridgefield for getting the Bell cast new.

Nathan Smith in behalf of the Bell Committee.

"Recd of the Societies Committee three Dollars & fifty-five cents in full for sweeping meeting House the past year per me.

Ridgefield Dec. 5th, 1800.

John Keeler."

"To Timothy Keeler, Esq., Societies Treasurer

Sir, Pay James Scott Twenty one Shillings and three pence for furnishing flax and making a rope for the Church Bell.

Societies Committee."

"This may certify that I the subscriber am willing to teach singing in the Presbyterian Society in Ridgefield, and sing as often as may be judged necessary by the Committee from 3 to 6 months in the year and on Sabbath evenings at one Dollar per evening including the Sabbath, and also to attend regularly on the Sabbath at all other times



PRESENT CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
completed in 1888.

throughout the year (sickness &c. excepted) for twenty five cts per day for taking the lead in singing.

Ridgefield Dec. 27th, 1827.

Harvey Betts."

In 1833 the church was altered and repaired. The entire interior wood work was taken out including pulpit and galleries, and newly arranged. The work was finished speedily, and the church was dedicated in June, 1834. The dedication sermon was preached by the Reverend Joel Mann. As noted previously, one particularly interesting feature of this gathering was the presence of Reverend Samuel Goodrich, the former pastor of the church, who assisted in the services.

In the summer of 1841, the exterior of the church was repaired. Subsequently a new bell, a new pulpit and an organ were installed.

In 1888 the present church was completed. Sunday, July 15th, 1888, was the last day that services were held in the old church. The Pastor, Reverend W. W. Leete, preached a historical sermon. In the evening a community service was held, pastors of other churches in town attended, and sons of the church from elsewhere were present. Among these were Reverend John L. Peck of the Methodist Church, Reverend Dr. McLean of New York, Honorable Rufus S. Pickett of New Haven, and Honorable James Harvey Olmstead of Stamford. On Wednesday, July 18, 1888, the dedication services were held in the new church. Ebenezer W. Keeler, as chairman of the building committee, delivered the church to the Society. It was accepted in behalf of the Society by Honorable William O. Seymour. The dedicatory sermon was preached by Reverend Charles K. McHarg of Coopers-town, New York. Mr. McHarg was the great-grandson of Reverend Jonathan Ingersoll, the second pastor of the church. In the evening the services were continued. The first speaker was Dr. Cyrus Northrop, President of the State University of Minnesota. Reverend Seneca Keeler,

of South Britain, Connecticut, Reverend Robert R. Kendall of Boxford, Massachusetts, both sons of Ridgefield, also made addresses.

The site of the church, upon which formerly stood the Big Shop or Carriage Manufactory, was presented to the Society by Henry K. McHarg, in memory of his father, John McHarg. The church is built from Ridgefield granite. The building, furnishings and grounds, according to the estimates at the time it was built, represented fully thirty-three thousand dollars. The pulpit furniture, cushions, carpets, chairs and other furnishings were the generous gift of Mrs. David S. Egleston.

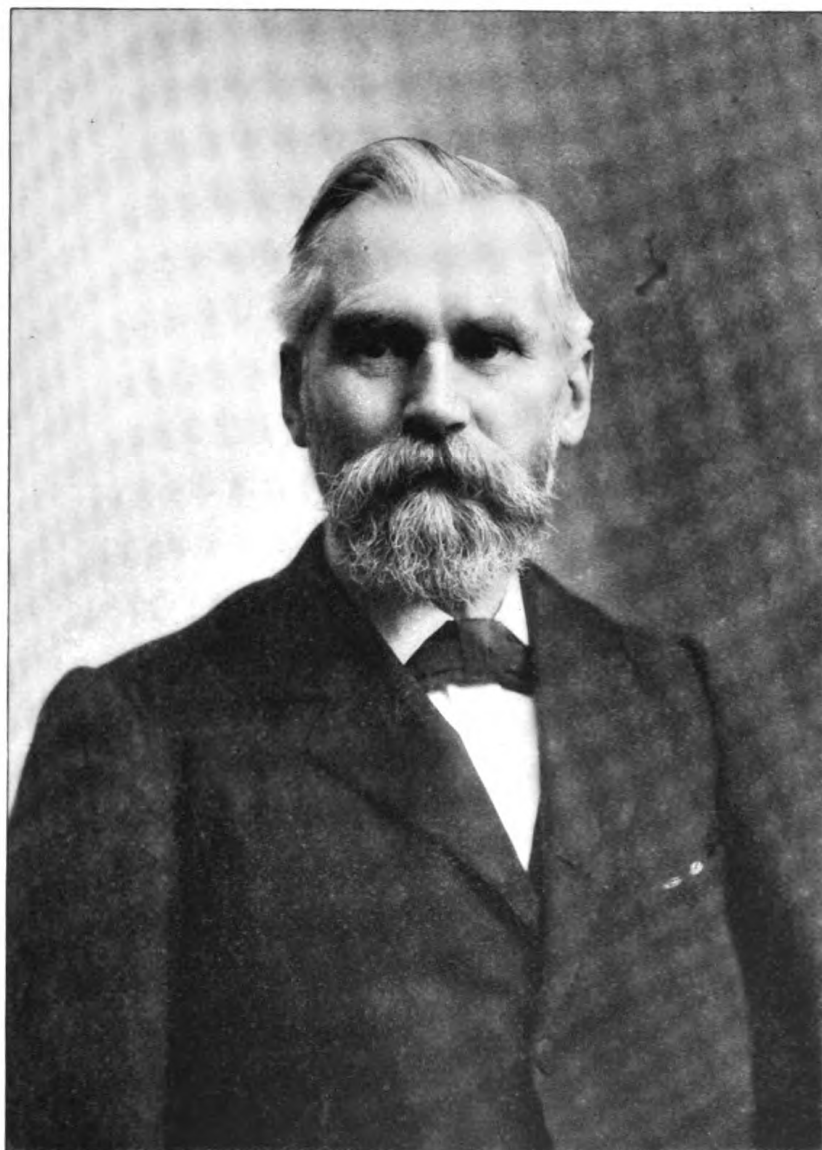
In 1895, the Misses Henrietta, Winona and Irene King gave to the church a bronze tablet in memory of their ancestor, Reverend Jonathan Ingersoll. The tablet represents the church in bas-relief. In 1901, the three sisters gave a clock and chimes in memory of their father, J. Howard King.

December 1st, 1916, the Society voted to buy the adjacent property of the former Ridgefield Club on West Lane. On April 21st, 1913, it was voted to incorporate the Society.

On March 24th, 1918, a patriotic service was held in the church. A large, handsome silk Connecticut State Flag was presented to the church by the National League of Woman's Service in memory of Private William J. Cumming, the first Ridgefield man to give up his life in France for his country. On October 20th, 1918, a memorial service was held in the church for Everett Ray Seymour, who was killed in battle on the firing line in France. The following is a list of the pastors with the terms of service in the order of their succession:

Recapitulation of the Succession of Ministers.

Thomas Hawley	Born Northampton, Massachusetts,
---------------	----------------------------------



Am. O. Symon

- Graduated Harvard, Class 1709,
Settled, 1713,
Died, while pastor, November 8,
1738, aged 49.
- Jonathan Ingersoll Born Stratford, Connecticut,
Graduated Yale, Class 1736,
Settled July, 1740,
Died, while pastor, October 2,
1778, aged 65.
- Samuel G. Goodrich Born Durham, Connecticut, Janu-
ary 12, 1763,
Graduated Yale, Class 1783,
Settled July 6, 1786,
Dismissed January 22, 1811,
Died April 19, 1835, aged 72.
- Samuel M. Phelps Born Suffield, Connecticut,
Graduated Yale, Class 1795,
Settled June 1817,
Dismissed December 31, 1829,
Died December 26, 1841, aged 72.
- Charles G. Selleck Born Darien, Connecticut, Febru-
ary 26, 1802,
Graduated Yale, Class 1827,
Settled May 25, 1831,
Dismissed September 6, 1837,
Died February 10, 1884, aged 82.
- Joseph Fuller Born Vershire, Vermont, Decem-
ber 18, 1806,
Graduated Middlebury College,
Class 1827, and Graduated An-
dover Theological School, Class
1830,
Settled February 28, 1838,
Dismissed May 17, 1842,
Died January 8, 1886, aged 79.

- James A. Hawley Born Avon, Connecticut, June 1, 1813,
Graduated Yale, Class 1837, and
Graduated Yale Divinity School,
Class 1840,
Settled October 25, 1842,
Dismissed November 5, 1849,
Died August 13, 1868, aged 55.
- Clinton Clark Born Granby, Massachusetts, May 19, 1812,
Graduated Amherst, 1835, and
Graduated Andover Theological
School, Class 1843,
Settled June 5, 1850,
Dismissed April 5, 1864,
Died September 23, 1871, aged 59.
- Pliny S. Boyd Born York, New York, May 13, 1836,
Graduated Oberlin, Class 1850,
and Graduated Andover Theological School, Class 1855,
Settled May 11, 1869,
Dismissed July 1, 1871,
Died December 6, 1887, aged 51.
- Daniel W. Teller Born 1838, Graduated Yale,
Settled February 1, 1871,
Dismissed October 1880,
Died March 23, 1894, at Fredonia, N. Y.
- William White Leete Born Windsor, Connecticut, October 11, 1854,
Graduated Amherst, Class 1877,
and Graduated Yale Divinity School, Class 1880,
Settled February 8, 1882,

- Dismissed August 1, 1888,
Now living in New Haven, Connecticut.
- John Winthrop
Ballantine Born Norwalk, Ohio, December
21, 1851,
Graduated Amherst, Class 1874,
and Graduated Union Theological
Seminary, Class 1878,
Settled September 22, 1889,
Dismissed March 31, 1900,
Now living in Milford, Connecticut.
- A. W. Gerrie Born West Garafraxa, Wellington
County, Ontario, Canada,
Graduated McGill University,
Montreal, 1884, receiving degree of
Bachelor of Arts. Also from
Congregational Theological College,
McGill University, Post Graduate
Course, Yale, 1891,
Called September 22, 1900,
Resigned August 28, 1915,
Now living in Lakemont, New York.
- John Maurice Deyo Born August 30, 1885,
Graduated Yale,
and Graduated Yale Divinity
School, Class 1910,
Called January 31, 1916,
Resigned October 12, 1918,
Now living in Danbury, Connecticut.
- Hugh Shields Born Monrovia, Indiana, October
26, 1890,

Graduated Butler College, Class 1915, and Graduated Butler College, Metropolitan School of Music, Department of Dramatic Art; Yale Divinity School, Class 1919, receiving Degree of Bachelor of Divinity.

Called June, 1919,

Mr. Shields is the present pastor.

Reverend Jonathan Bartlett supplied the pulpit from 1811 to 1814 without being settled. Reverend John Noyes supplied the pulpit from 1814 to 1817 without being settled. Reverend Samuel G. Coe supplied the pulpit from October 18th, 1865, for three years without being settled.

CHAPTER XXI

ST. STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The records of St. Stephen's Parish have been kept with great care for two hundred years, although the first volume in which are contained the early baptisms, marriages and deaths is missing. The history of the church and the records of meetings connected with its origin in Ridgefield, the erection of its buildings and ministrations of its first clergymen are very complete.

The foundation of the Episcopal Church, or Church of England, was laid by the Reverend Samuel Johnson of Stratford, the first clergyman of this church in the state of Connecticut. This clergyman preached here occasionally for several years. He began his services in Ridgefield about 1725. In 1728, Reverend Henry Caner of Fairfield reported several small parishes or missionary stations, beyond the limits of his own parish, one of which was Ridgefield, with twenty families. The two brothers, Reverend Henry Caner of Fairfield and Reverend Richard Caner (pronounced *Canner*) of Norwalk, Reverend John Beach of Newtown, and Reverend James Wetmore of Rye, attended to the spiritual needs of the parish until 1744.

The Reverend John Beach who was a missionary at Newtown, reported to the society in London "that he often officiated and administered the sacraments in Ridgefield, distant from his residence about eighteen miles, where, in 1738, there were nearly twenty families of very serious and religious people, who had a just esteem of the Church of England, and desired to have the opportunity of worshipping God in that way."

Reverend Joseph Lamson, assistant to the Reverend Wetmore of Rye, officiated in Ridgefield in 1744, in con-

nection with Bedford and North Castle in Westchester County, until 1747, when he removed to Fairfield. He still continued his services in Ridgefield until about 1762. Succeeding Mr. Lamson was Reverend Richard S. Clark, of Salem, who held services here in connection with Salem and Ridgebury.

In the year 1768 Reverend Epenetus Townsend took charge of the service in Ridgefield, also in connection with Salem and Ridgebury. He continued as pastor until 1776, when upon the signing of the Declaration of Independence, being a loyal British subject, he left Ridgefield. He was appointed a chaplain in a British regiment, then stationed in New York City. In 1779, the battalion to which he was attached was ordered to Halifax, Nova Scotia. With his wife and five children he sailed in one of the vessels. A severe storm arose, and the vessel foundered in Boston Bay, and all on board were lost. Reverend Mr. Townsend was the last of the English Clergy in Ridgefield. Previous to the Revolutionary War, all the clergy who were stationed in or administered to Ridgefield were sent out by the English "Society for the Propagation in Foreign Parts." Reverend Mr. Townsend, as well as the other missionaries, received an annuity of twenty pounds, in addition to the tax raised among the people for his support.

The records of St. Stephen's Parish are very interesting. Some of the earliest read as follows:

" March 29, 1738. Received of the Members of the Church of England in Ridgefield, the whole of their Ministerial Taxes for the year 1737.

Received per me, John Beach, *Missionary*
A true copy of original Receipt.

Recorded April 3, 1738. Timothy Keeler, *Register*."

" Norwalk, March 17, 1742/3.

To Mr. John Smith, Collector at Ridgefield.

Sir. Please cross off Messrs. Benjamin Bradley, Jonathan Brooks, Robert Faquer, Samuel Lobdell, Jabez Northrop, Richard Osborn, Daniel Sherwood, Sen^r, Daniel Sherwood,

Jun^r, David Osborn, Alexander Resseguie, Isaac Resseguie, Jacob Resseguie, Nathan Sherwood, Robert Smith, John Whitlock, Abraham Whitlock, and Nathan Whitlock's names out of your book for collecting minister's rates; and place their dues to account of

Your humble servant,

Richard Caner, *Missionary*.

Recorded Oct. 24, 1744, per me — Timothy Keeler, *Register*."

" March 15th, 1744. Mr. Samuel Smith

Sir. Please to pay the Ministerial Rate which you have collected of the professors of the Church of England in Ridgefield to Mr. Joseph Lamson; and his Receipt shall be your discharge, from Sir,

Your humble servants,

Henry Caner, *Missionary*,

Richard Caner, *Missionary*.

Received to Record,

Dec. 24, 1744, and recorded per me — Timothy Keeler, *Register*."

" Ridgefield, April 14, 1744. Then received of Samuel Smith Collector of the Ministerial Rate for the Town of Ridgefield for the year 1744, the sum of forty pounds, eleven Shillings, and eleven Pence of the old tenor, in full of the Episcopal parties Rates in said Ridgefield.

40.11.11. Received per me,

Joseph Lamson.

Received to record December 24, 1744, and Recorded per me — Timothy Keeler, *Register*."

With the departure of Reverend Epenetus Townsend and the burning of the church by the British the following year, the society in Ridgefield underwent a depression from which it did not recover until after the Revolutionary War was brought to a close. Reverend David Belden supplied the pulpit for four months in 1788. The Reverend David Perry was the first settled Minister of the Church after the Revolution. He was ordained a deacon by Bishop Seabury, September 22, 1789, and to priest's order on the 16th of October, 1791. The following is from the church records:

"At a meeting of the First Episcopal Society holden at the Town House in Ridgefield by adjournment on the first Monday in August, 1789, Voted, That Doct. David Perry receive Holy Orders for this Society."

Dr. David Perry graduated from Yale College in the class of 1772, studied medicine and settled at Ridgefield as a physician. While serving St. Stephen's Church as rector, he had also charge of St. James' Church in North Salem. About 1767, St. James' Church was presented by Miss Susanah De Lancey with a silver chalice, which was afterwards sold by order of the vestry.* From tradition and record, it is commonly believed that this silver chalice was sold to St. Stephen's Church at Ridgefield for one hundred dollars, as St. James' parish decided to raise money in that manner to assist in defraying its expenses. Reverend Dr. Perry was deputed to receive the silver chalice. Dr. Perry while rector of St. Stephen's Church neglected the Convocation of Clergy and the conventions of the Diocese of Connecticut, probably because of his practice as a physician. He fell under censure, and finally resigned his Letter of Orders and relinquished the clerical profession in June, 1795. He continued the practice of medicine in Ridgefield, and was succeeded by his son Nehemiah, who in turn was succeeded by his son Nehemiah, Jr.

The first building erected for Church of England worship was built about 1740. At a meeting held January 4th, 1739, the Proprietors of the town voted to grant a spot on the Main Street to this Society where they might erect a church. This tract of land was directly in front of what was then called the Sturdevant lot, and was a portion of the highway. The Sturdevant lot was that portion of the Town Street upon which the rectory is now located. This church was located within three feet of the lot. The building was built with the length running parallel to the street. The space granted by the town

*Bolton's History of Westchester County.

was thirty-six feet north and south, and twenty-six feet east and west. The following is the resolution passed at the town meeting:

"Whereas at a Proprietor's Meeting January 4th, 1740, did by a major vote, order and empower us the subscribers, to view and look at a spot or place of ground that may be convenient and suitable to build and erect a Church or Meeting House, for those that are of the profession of the Church of England; and also to agree with, and confirm unto them the said spot or piece of land so agreed upon; in pursuance to, and by virtue of said vote, we have set out, and do agree with the said professors, that they shall have liberty of a certain spot in said Town Street, on the front of that home lot that was formerly John Sturdevant's deceased; the west sill bounded within three feet of the line of front of said lot; which said spot or piece of ground is to be in extent, thirty-six feet north and south; and east and west, twenty-six feet.

Richard Olmsted
Matthew Seamore
Timothy Keeler

Committee

Received to Record, Jany. 10, 1746

and recorded per me — Timothy Keeler, Register."

During the Revolutionary War this building was taken by the commissary department of the American Army and used as a store-house. While the British were retreating through Ridgefield from Danbury, April 27th, 1777, they set fire to the church.* Though it was not entirely consumed, it was so damaged by fire and smoke as to render it unfit to use as a place to hold worship. In the month of June, 1784, it was deemed best and advisable to tear down the old church and take steps toward erecting a new one. The notice of this meeting is as follows:

"To Alexander Resseguie of Ridgefield in Fairfield County, Greetings:

"By authority of the State of Connecticut; you are hereby required to notify and warn all the inhabitants living within the limits of the First Society of Ridgefield, that

* The church was fired on the morning of April 28th.

are professors of the Church of England, to meet and hold a Society meeting at the Church in said Society, on the 28th day of instant, June, at 3 o'clock after noon, (it being the place of worship of said professors,) for the purpose of choosing Society officers, repairing the church, hiring some person to perform Divine Service in said Episcopal Society, granting a tax for these purposes, and any other business proper for said meeting to do or act. By order of us —

Philip B. Bradley, Justice of the peace.
Ebenezer Lobdell }
David Perry }
Alexander Resseguie } Principal
 } Inhabitants."

Ridgefield June 19, 1784

The meeting "voted not to repair the old church, to hire a person to perform divine service for four months, and to pay ten pounds by way of tax on the list of 1783, for the purpose of paying the expenses of the Society."

On October 28th, 1784, another meeting was held and it was voted to pull down the old church, and build a new one, forty feet long, thirty feet wide, and eighteen feet posts, a little south of the old one, and on the ground granted by the town for that purpose. It was voted to pay a tax of one shilling on the pound on the list of the year 1784 by the first day of April, 1785, for the purpose of erecting the new church.

"Voted that Benjamin Hoyt, Ezekiel Wilson, Thaddeus Sturges, and Jonathan Whitlock be a committee to conduct the pulling down and disposing of the old church, and to manage and carry on the building of the new one."

In the meantime, Lieutenant Benjamin Smith donated a piece of ground upon which to erect the new church. This deed was executed September 20th, 1785. The plot deeded was on the northeast corner of his homestead, adjoining the town street, and the present edifice stands upon a portion of said tract. The ground was seventy-three feet in length, north and south, and forty-three feet wide, east and west. It was bounded east by the Town Street,



ST. STEPHEN'S CHURCH,
erected 1841.

north by land of Nathan Dauchy, and south and west by land of the donor. The condition of the gift was that it should be forever appropriated to the use of said church. At a meeting held at the house of Captain Vivus Dauchy, just north of the church, on the sixteenth day of December, 1784, it was "voted, to reconsider the appointment of the Committee made at the meeting held on the 28th day of October, and that Benjamin Hoyt and Ezekiel Wilson constitute the Committee to carry on the building of said church. Voted, that the said building shall stand at the northeast corner of the Sturdevant lot so-called, adjoining the Town Street, in the First Society in Ridgefield, on a piece of ground given by Benjamin Smith for that purpose. Voted that the church shall not exceed forty-two feet in length and that the width and height be in proportion, according to the judgment of the Committee." The Church was erected upon this site and the size adopted was forty-four feet long, and thirty-two feet in width, the ends facing north and south, with doors on the south and east sides. The church had no steeple. A gallery was built in the south end of the church. The church was not comfortably furnished until 1791.

The means of the parish were limited, and raising money was difficult. The people still suffered from impoverishment in consequence of the Revolutionary War and produce of various kinds were taken in payment of money. The following parish records will explain the methods devised to raise the means necessary to finish the church.

"At a meeting of the First Episcopal Society in Ridgefield, holden at the house of Captain Vivus Dauchy on the first day of Sept. 1785, Voted, that Ebenezer Stebbins be a committee, in addition to Benjamin Hoyt and Ezekiel Wilson, appointed at a former meeting to manage the building of the church. Voted, likewise, that all persons who have undertaken to get timber for a church, shall have it at the place appointed by Thursday the 8th inst. September;

or the Committee shall not be obliged to accept in payment of taxes."

Another meeting was held at the home of Captain Vivus Dauchy, April 27th, 1787. The record is as follows:

"Voted, that said Society shall pay a tax of two pence on the Pound on the List of 1786, into the Treasury of said Society by first day of October next, for the purpose of carrying on the building a Church. Item, that any person who shall furnish good eighteen inch chestnut shingle for the Church, shall be allowed one Pound, four shillings per thousand. That good whitewood inch Boards, shall be valued at six shillings per hundred foot; three quarter-inch Oak Boards at four shillings and six pence per hundred foot. Item, that the aforesaid articles shall be delivered at the church in said Ridgefield by the first day of June next; otherwise the Committee shall not be obliged to take them in payment of taxes towards the building a church."

Another meeting was held at the home of Captain Vivus Dauchy, September 31st, 1787, when the following resolution was adopted:

"Voted that the Society shall pay a tax of four Pence on the Pound, on the List of the year 1787, by the first of April next. Voted that Rye at three shillings and six pence per bushel; Corn at three shillings; Oats at one shilling six pence; Buckwheat at two shillings per bushel; Flax at seven pence per pound, shall be taken in payment of said tax."

In 1791 it was voted to sell lots for the pews in the church. It was also voted that they should be sold by auction to the highest bidder. The following vote was passed at this time:

"That the Committee appointed to carry on the finishing of the church, shall lay out the lots for the pews in the same, and advertise and sell them as before directed, when and at what time they think proper. Benjamin Hoyt and Joshua Burt were said committee."

At a meeting held April 17th, 1794, a committee was appointed to superintend the building of a pulpit. At a meeting held April 17th, 1799, the Society's Committee was

directed to procure materials, and build the remaining pews in the church, and charge the same to the Society. In the year 1819 several improvements were made in the church. Side galleries were built, and a steeple erected on the south end. This was in style the same as the one upon the Congregational Church.

The door on the east side was closed, and another pew was built at this point. It was a square pew and was occupied by Abijah Resseguie. Mr. Resseguie, a sketch of whom is given elsewhere in this book, was one of the leading men not only of his church, but of the community. He was warden of the church for twenty-three years.

In 1820 the Society petitioned the General Assembly of the State to remunerate the parish for the damage done by the British, on account of the former building being used as a store-house by the commissary during the Revolution. The application was futile and nothing was allowed for the damage.

In the year 1828, a bell was hung in the steeple. It weighed six hundred pounds. On November 12th, 1831, Bishop Brownell visited the parish and consecrated the church which he named St. Stephen's. He also administered confirmation to fifty-two persons. Sixty new communicants were added this year.

In the year 1832 the square pews were taken out of the center of the church, long pews were substituted, but the square pews were left on each side of the church.

In 1841, the Society realized that it needed a larger building in which to worship. On January twenty-ninth a meeting was held and measures were taken for the erection of a new church, provided a suitable site could be obtained. March tenth a committee was appointed to superintend and make arrangements for building this edifice. This committee was William Lee, Albin Jennings, Rufus Northrop, and Chauncey Olmstead. Isaac Jones, the owner of the place adjoining on the south, donated a

piece of ground directly in the rear of the land already deeded in 1785 by Benjamin Smith. This piece of land measured one hundred feet east and west, and eighty-two feet to eighty-six feet north and south. This land was deeded August 12th, 1841. The corner stone was laid by the rector, Warner Hoyt, in the presence of a large number of Clergy and of the people of the town, on this same date. The following year on the twentieth day of September, the church was consecrated by Bishop Brownell. The organ, the first one owned by the parish, was used upon this occasion for the first time. The dimensions of this church were fifty-six feet long, and forty feet wide. There was a projection running thirty feet along the front, and five feet wide, which was built for a vestibule and stairway leading up to the galleries and choir.

In 1851 the bell was sold to the Congregational church in Georgetown, and a new one weighing one thousand five hundred and eight pounds was purchased from A. Meneely,* West Troy, New York, and was erected in place of the old one in the month of August. In 1857 during the rectorship of Reverend William H. Williams, a chancel fifteen feet in depth was added to the church, making the entire length of the church seventy-six feet. The interior arrangements of the church were also changed, so that there was a center aisle, the walls were decorated, and a new organ made at the factory of George Jardine of New York, was installed, the entire improvements costing about two thousand dollars.

In 1858 Bishop John Williams consecrated the chancel, assisted by a number of former rectors of the parish. In 1875 the organ was enlarged by the addition of several stops, and one hundred and twenty-six new pipes, which brought the number of stops to sixteen and the pipes to four hundred and fifty.

*The Liberty Bell of 1776, hanging in Independence Hall, Philadelphia, was made by the Meneeys of Troy.

The following bequest was given to St. Stephen's Church in the will of Anthony Beers. The will is dated July 6th, 1819, and contains the following bequest:

"I give and bequeath to the Protestant Episcopal Church of Ridgefield Ten Dollars as a special legacy, the principal of which to be a fund in perpetuity and the interest to be appropriated in such a manner from time to time as said wardens shall divest."

The will was probated in Danbury. Anthony Beers died October 14th, 1820, in his seventieth year. His home was on the top of Branchville Hill near the Wilton line, in recent years the summer home of the celebrated artist, J. Alden Weir.

In 1836, Nathan Dauchy, a native of Ridgefield, then living in Troy, New York, made an offer to the Society for the creation of a fund toward the support of the ministry. The parish raised twelve hundred dollars to which he added the same amount. The fund was added to so that by 1876 it amounted to three thousand and fifty dollars.

In 1869 a sum of five hundred dollars was bequeathed to the parish by Nancy Smith of Norwalk, the income to be used to aid the poor in the parish. The first parsonage or rectory was erected upon a piece of ground donated by Philip Bradley, consisting of one acre. This site was opposite the present Library, and is merged into the grounds of Edward L. Ballard, being the southernmost section of this place. This rectory was built in 1838. It was later the home of Gould Rockwell.

The next rectory was the present Ashland Cottage, opposite Market Street. Upon the death of Keeler Dauchy in 1888, the present property came into the possession of the church. Mr. Dauchy was warden of St. Stephen's Church for thirty-seven years.

The present church, which is a fine example of colonial architecture, was built during the ministry of the present pastor, Reverend William B. Lusk. It was completed in

1915, and on Tuesday, May 30th, 1916, the new church was dedicated by Right Reverend Chauncey B. Brewster, D.D., Bishop of Connecticut. A part of the choir of the Cathedral of St. John the Divine of New York City sang at the dedication.

In 1916, the present rectory was built, the former building being moved to Catoonah Street.

Tablets have been placed upon the walls of the church in memory of two parishioners. The inscriptions are as follows:

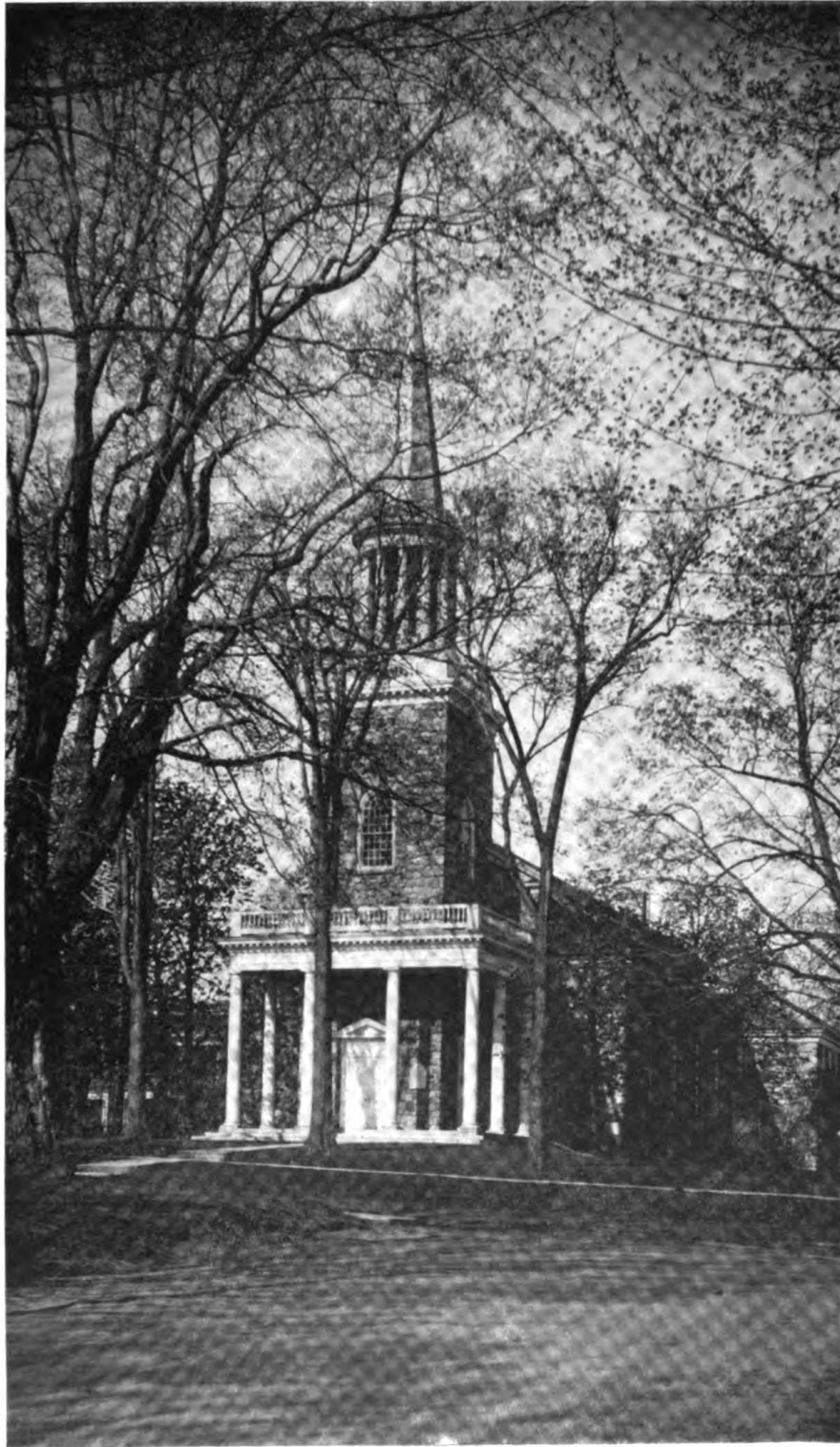
THIS TABLET
IS ERECTED BY THE VESTRY
IN MEMORY OF
NATHAN DAUCHY
A ZEALOUS FRIEND AND SUPPORTER
OF THE CHURCH.
HE DIED APRIL 14, 1824,
IN THE GLORIOUS HOPE OF A
BLESSED IMMORTALITY.

"MARK THE PERFECT MAN, AND
BEHOLD THE UPRIGHT, FOR THE
END OF THAT MAN IS PEACE."

THIS TABLET
IS ERECTED BY THE VESTRY
IN MEMORY OF
SAMUEL STEBBINS, ESQ.,
SENIOR WARDEN OF THIS CHURCH,
FROM THE YEAR 1793, UNTIL HIS DEATH,
HE DIED MARCH 27, 1836,
AGED 73 YEARS.

HIS UNTIRING ACTIVITY,
AND CHRISTIAN DEVOTEDNESS,
IN THE CAUSE OF RELIGION, AND
THE PROSPERITY OF THIS
CHURCH; ARE WORTHY
OF A GRATEFUL REMEMBRANCE
IN THE ANNALS OF THIS PARISH.

"BLESSED ARE THE DEAD WHO
DIE IN THE LORD."



ST. STEPHEN'S CHURCH,
erected 1915.

The following is the Succession of Ministers:

	Entered upon Ministry	Termination
Reverend Samuel Johnson of Stratford	1725	
Reverend Henry Caner of Fairfield	1727	
Reverend John Beach of Newtown	1735	1738
Reverend James Wetmore of Rye	1740	
Reverend Richard Caner of Norwalk	1742	1744
Reverend Joseph Lamson of Rye with Bedford & Northcastle	1744	1762
Reverend Richard S. Clark of Salem with Ridgefield & Ridgebury	1764	1767
Reverend Epenetus Townsend of Salem with Ridgefield & Ridge- bury	May 26, 1768	July, 1776

The above clergymen were missionaries of the "Society in England for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts" previous to the Revolutionary War, who officiated at Ridgefield in connection with other stations or at intervals.

Rev. David Belden	1788 for 4 months	
Rev. David Perry	Oct. 16, 1791	April 1, 1795
Rev. David Butler	Feb. 14, 1799	Oct. 1, 1804
Rev. Russell Wheeler	Sept. 15, 1805	May 1, 1806
Rev. Elijah G. Plumb	April 2, 1807	April 11, 1811
Rev. Reuben Hubbard	Jan. 15, 1812	April 1818
Rev. Charles Smith	June 15, 1813	April 1823
Rev. Origen P. Holcomb	May 26, 1823	Easter 1831
Rev. Charles J. Todd	May 15, 1831	Sept. 1834
Rev. Jacob Lyman Clark	July 20, 1835	Mar. 26, 1837
Rev. Eli Wheeler	Aug. 1, 1837	Mar. 31, 1839
Rev. Joseph H. Nichols	April 28, 1839	June 30, 1839
Rev. Warner Hoyt	July 6, 1839	Oct. 18, 1844 (deceased)
Rev. Thaddeus M. Leavenworth	April 1, 1845	Oct. 1, 1846
Rev. David H. Short	Dec. 1, 1845	April 1, 1846

Rev. Henry Olmstead, Jr.	April 13, 1846	April 20, 1850
Rev. William Staunton	June 8, 1850	May 30, 1852
Rev. Theodore S. Rumney	Aug. 1853	Nov. 14, 1853
Rev. William H. Williams	March 1, 1854	Oct. 7, 1863
Rev. Curtiss T. Woodruff	May 1, 1864	May 10, 1866
Rev. Francis T. Russell	June 3, 1866	May 1, 1868
Rev. Samuel F. Jarvis	Aug. 2, 1868	Aug. 3, 1873
Rev. David D. Bishop	Oct. 1, 1873	May 12, 1878
Rev. Francis A. Henry	July 1, 1878	Oct. 1, 1888
Rev. Foster Ely	Mar. 1, 1889	July 1, 1906
(Pastor Emeritus till his death)		
Rev. John H. Chapman	Aug. 12, 1906	Sept. 25, 1914
Rev. William B. Lusk	May 1, 1915	Present Rector, 1927

CHAPTER XXII

THE RIDGEBURY CHURCHES

The present Congregational Church in Ridgebury was organized January 18th, 1769, with eighteen members. From tradition we learn that a meeting house was built in Ridgebury as early as 1738. At a Town Meeting held in Ridgefield, December 13th, 1742, the following resolution was passed: "The Town by a Major Vote do give Liberty to y^e people living in y^e new Pattent, that they shall be allowed to have a meeting four months in a year for two years on y^e Sabbath or Lord's Day among themselves in order to carry on Religious worship, and to live and to hire a man to preach among them in y^e s^d time so allowed to them, provided they do it upon their own cost and charge."

In May, 1761, on petition of Timothy Benedict, Samuel Gates, Jonah Foster, and others from Ridgebury, asking to be made an ecclesiastical society, the General Assembly appointed a Committee and the Committee's report was accepted at the October session, and the Assembly made a Society of the "New Pattent," and named it Ridgebury. This is the first time that this section of the town was thus called. Many efforts were made to settle a pastor in the place and services were maintained by occasional supplies.

On November 23rd, 1768, it was voted to call Reverend Samuel Camp as their minister, his salary to be seventy-five pounds. One hundred and fifty pounds were given him for his settlement, and this last amount was to be paid in three annual installments. Mr. Camp was ordained and installed January 18th, 1769. The church was organized with eighteen members, who presented certifi-

cates from other churches: Reverend Samuel Camp, Jabish Smith, Isaiah Birchard, James Northrop, John Rockwell, Daniel Coley, David Rockwell, Timothy Benedict, Samuel Keeler, Lemuel Abbott, Samuel St. John, John Joyce, Jonathan Osborn, Samuel Gates, James Sears, John Barber, Thomas Frost, and Thomas Wilson.

Mr. Camp was pastor over thirty-five years, until November, 1804, when he resigned because of failing health. He died October, 1813, and is buried with his three wives in the Ridgebury cemetery. Mr. Camp was a native of Salisbury, Connecticut, and a graduate of Yale College in the class of 1764.

Reverend Nathan Burton was the next pastor and was installed in 1821. He was pastor of the Church until June, 1841. Previous to his installation as Pastor, Mr. Burton served as Deacon for eight years, resigning that office upon his installation.

Mr. Burton was succeeded by Reverend Zalmon B. Burr, of Westport, Connecticut, who was ordained and installed in June, 1843, and remained as pastor until 1850.

Reverend Martin Dudley served as Pastor from 1850 to 1851. He was followed by Reverend Philo Canfield of Buffalo City Presbytery, who was installed in September, 1852, and remained until the spring of 1856. Following Mr. Canfield, came Reverend William W. Page, acting as a supply for one year. Reverend E. S. Huntington of Danbury preached for the Society for two years, or until September, 1861, and was succeeded by Reverend Frederick J. Jackson. Reverend John E. Elliott of Barkhamsted was called as Pastor in December, 1862. He was ordained and installed in the following May. He served until May 16th, 1865, and was succeeded by Reverend Augustus Alvord of Bolton, Connecticut, who was Pastor from 1867 to 1871 as a supply.

In September, 1871, Reverend William M. Parsons of Brooklyn, New York, a Baptist, was invited to supply

the pulpit. Mr. Parsons served as pastor for thirteen years until June, 1884, and again from April, 1889, until March, 1895, making his term of service in Ridgebury nineteen years in all. A large portrait of Mr. Parsons hangs in the church at the present time. Between the first and second terms of Reverend Mr. Parsons, Reverend Daniel D. Frost served from June, 1884, to August, 1886, and was succeeded by the Reverend Richard Storrs Billings, who served from April, 1887, until his death which occurred on October 24th, 1888.

The next Pastor was Reverend Edward S. Sanborn, who was ordained July 23rd, 1895, and served until December 31st, 1899. For several years Reverend Mr. Sanborn was a member of the Board of Education in Ridgefield. Reverend William E. Todd was the next pastor, serving from April 1st, 1900, until May 19th, 1901. He was succeeded by the Reverend Louis F. Burgess, who began his service October 1st, 1902.

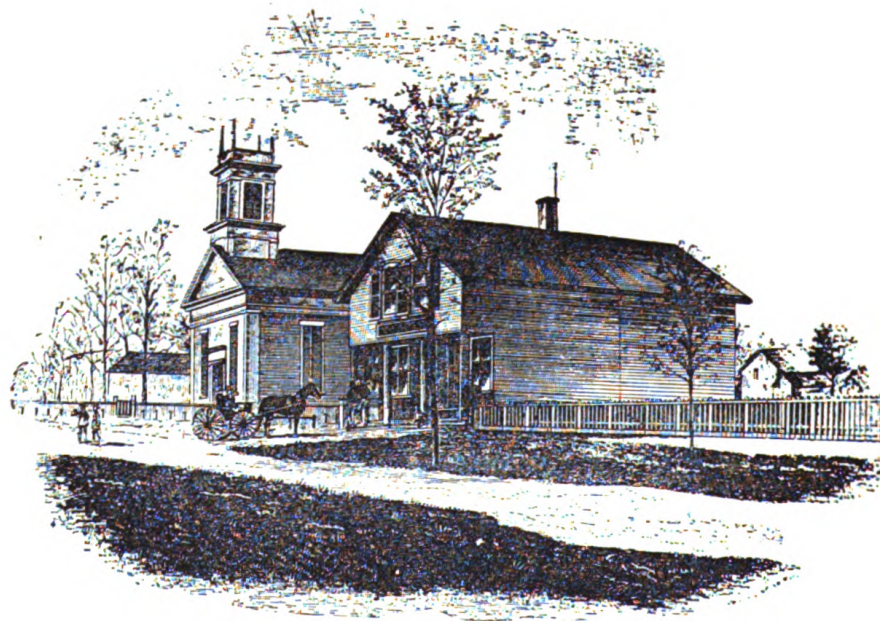
Mr. Burgess was followed by Reverend Edgar Henry Byrons, who came to Ridgebury April 1st, 1911, and served as pastor until November 4th, 1920. For a number of years Mr. Byrons has lived in Pomona, Florida. At the present time, Reverend Hugh Shields of the Congregational Church at Ridgefield conducts services in Ridgebury, the meetings being held Sunday afternoons.

The Church in Ridgebury has seen three ministers go forth from its midst to preach the gospel: Reverend Nathan Burton, Reverend Jacob St. John and Reverend Oliver St. John. It has had twenty Deacons, the twentieth and only one living being Mr. Samuel A. Coe, who has been a Deacon for thirty-two years, having been chosen to that position September 5th, 1895.

The original meeting house in the new patent was situated on the hill south of the triangle in Ridgebury Street. It was located on the cross-road running easterly about an eighth of a mile south of the triangle. In Oc-

tober, 1762, the Society bought the present church property of John Whitlock, the only consideration being as stated by Mr. Whitlock, "The love and respect I have and do bear unto said Discenting Society of Ridgebury."

On August 23rd, 1768, it was voted to build a church forty-six feet by thirty-six feet inside, to "stand facing the east and to be finished by the first day of July, 1769."



CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH AND STORE AT RIDGEBURY

Parts of the old building were used in constructing the new church. This church was without plastered walls, and had no stove, and for the twenty-four years before the pews were built, the only seats were wooden benches. In 1816 and in 1834, the Society repaired the Church. In 1838, it was thoroughly repaired and refurnished and the old pews and high pulpit were replaced with a modern pulpit and seats. In 1851 the old church which had done service for more than eighty years, was taken down and the present church was erected and dedicated in the same year.

A valuable contribution to the records of our town was given us by Reverend Samuel Camp, who from 1769 to 1800 kept a complete account of the marriages in the Ridgebury parish, which list has been preserved intact.

The Episcopal Church, or Church of England, held services in Ridgebury contemporaneously with those held in Ridgefield. The reports of the "Society for the Propagation of the Gospel" state that prior to 1731, Ridgefield, Ridgebury and the Oblong were considered as mission stations within the bounds of the parish of Fairfield.

The church was located in the point of the triangle at the lower end of Ridgebury Street. The chapter on St. Stephen's Church at Ridgefield mentions Reverend Richard S. Clark as serving Ridgebury from 1764 to 1767, also Reverend Epenetus Townsend from 1768 to 1776. The society's abstracts for 1772 say "that Mr. Townsend, missionary at Salem, states his congregation to be increasing. Hath baptised sixty-two infants and two adults." In 1775 they say "that Mr. Townsend is constant in the performance of his duty in his own parishes, and preaches frequently in parts adjacent. From Ladyday to Michaelmas he baptized twenty-one infants and one adult, and admitted two new communicants." The abstracts of 1776 add, "that one letter from Mr. Townsend, of September 29, 1775, gives the account of his mission in which he baptized thirty infants, buried seven and married three couples in the preceding half year."

There were no services held in Ridgebury during the Revolutionary War. The last meetings were held in Ridgebury during Reverend Dr. David Perry's term as rector at St. Stephen's Church. From a record of St. Stephen's Church we find that "at a meeting of the First Episcopal Society, in Ridgefield, holden at the Town House on the 22nd day of Sept. 1789, the following occurs among its doings: "Voted, That this Society shall pay a tax of two pence on the pound on the list of said Society by the first of

March annually to David Perry as long as he shall serve them in the office of Minister. Voted, That the Society will consent that said Perry shall go to Ridgebury one quarter of the time."

In 1790, the consent thus granted was withdrawn. The Ridgebury Episcopal church was maintained over half a century. The old church remained unused for twenty years, and in 1810 it was torn down.

Among the active supporters of the church were Dr. Stephen Bennett, the Sherwood and Weed families, Eliphallet Brush and Nehemiah Sturges.

CHAPTER XXIII

THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Methodism was first introduced into the United States about 1766. In 1771 Reverend Francis Asbury, the senior bishop of the church in the United States, came over from England and traveled through various parts of this country. In 1784, the Methodist Episcopal Church duly organized at a conference held in Baltimore. As early as 1787 Reverend Cornelius Cook visited Ridgefield and preached here. The Methodist church in Ridgefield was the third in New England. The first Methodist Conference held in New York City in 1789 sent Jesse Lee to the "Stamford Circuit." His third sermon in Connecticut was preached in Ridgefield on June 28th, 1789. The first sermon was delivered at Norwalk, and the second at Redding. The sermon in Ridgefield was preached in the Independent School House which stood upon the present grounds of the late Governor Phineas C. Lounsbury.

On the twenty-eighth of the following January, the first Class was formed in Ridgefield. This class was the third in New England. The members were Ichabod Wheeler and his wife Catherine; Daniel Keeler and his wife Grace.

The records of the Methodist Church tell us that the meetings were held in Limestone. Certificates of membership were issued to several persons. The first certificate was issued to Ambrose Olmsted, Jr., on November 16th, 1787. Rev. Jesse Lee issued a certificate to Jeremiah Olmsted of Ridgebury, October 17th, 1789. On April 1st, 1790, Rev. George Roberts issued the same to Ichabod Wheeler; Rev. John Bloodgood to Daniel Keeler on December 24th, 1790; and on March 30th, 1797, to Stephen

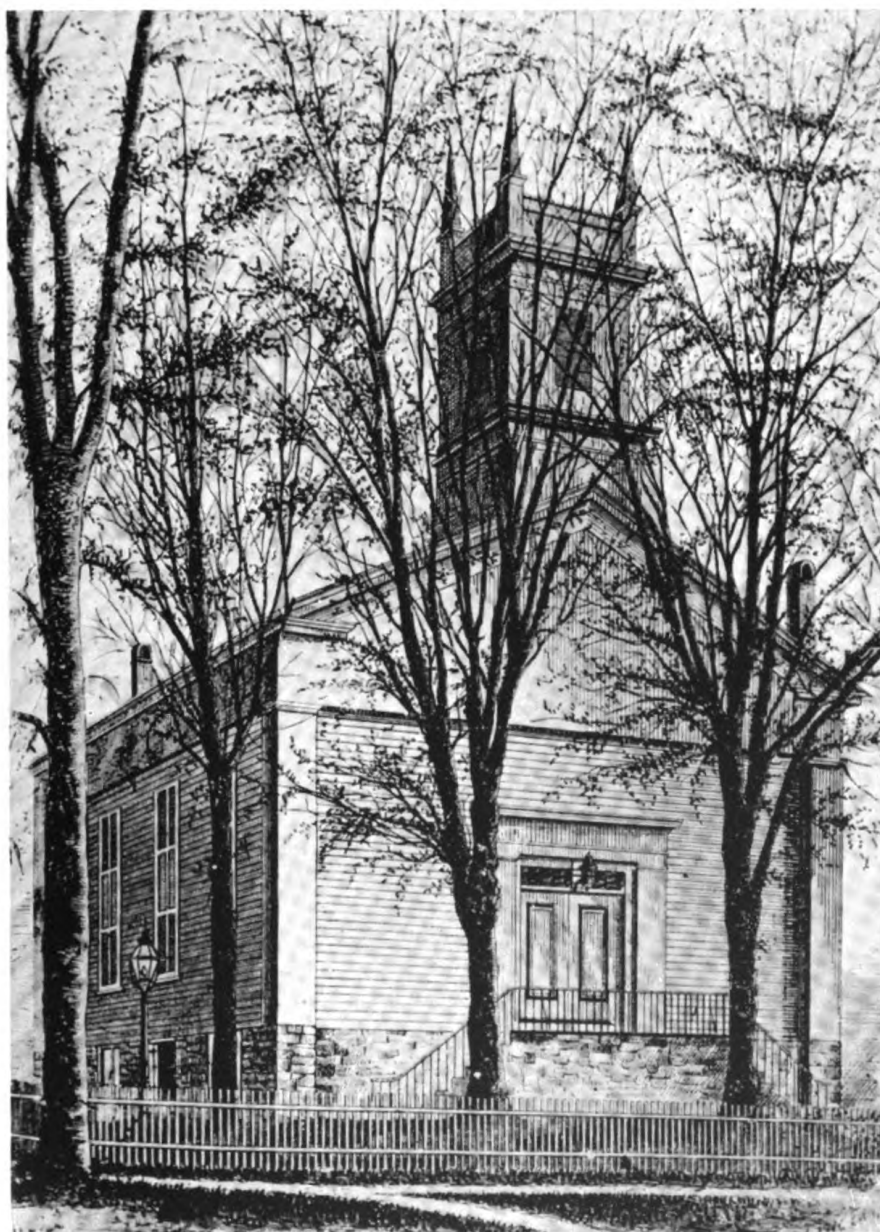
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Mills, Powell Batterson and Jonathan Stevens. Rev. Jesse Lee came from Virginia, which was his native state. He was at one time Chaplain of the House of Representatives of the United States Congress. Other persons who joined the church were, John Mills, March 27th, 1789; Thaddeus Benedict, December 10th, 1804; Joseph Mead, 3rd, December 10th, 1804; Samuel Hoyt, 2nd, November 5th, 1805; Abijah Hyatt, December 7th, 1805; Benjamin Bouton, March 31st, 1806; Martha Bouton, August 6th, 1807; Jabez Mix Gilbert, November 23rd, 1807; Daniel Dean, March 28th, 1808, and Dr. Amos Baker, November 14th, 1809.

For many years there was no preaching by the "circuit preachers" on Sunday, but Absalom Day of Norwalk, Aaron Sanford and Hawley Sanford of Redding, Rory Starr of Danbury, who were local preachers, held frequent services in Ridgefield. James Coleman of Ridgefield also labored and served in the township, and he is spoken of with grateful appreciation and affection by the early Methodists in Ridgefield. Classes were formed in North Street in 1805, in the Village in 1809, and from 1807 to 1826 the houses of Thomas Hyatt, Jabez Mix Gilbert at the four corners in Titicus, and Dr. Amos Baker on Main Street were the regular places for holding meetings. Mr. Goodrich speaks of Dr. Baker's kitchen as a meeting place.

Methodism grew rapidly in Ridgefield and in 1824 the first church was erected. It stood in the fork of the roads leading through Titicus to North Salem, and North Street. The location was the exact spot in the apex of the cemetery now the Lounsbury family plot. Revivals occurred frequently, special mention being made of the years 1816, 1822, 1828 and 1839.

William Crocker was among the converts, and soon became a lay preacher. His labors were short as he died in 1835. Mr. Crocker lived in the first house north of the present Methodist Church parsonage. Other preachers



THE METHODIST CHURCH,
built in 1841. It was replaced by the present edifice in 1883.

who have gone from Ridgefield were Reverends Stephen Remington, Thomas B. Rockwell, Albert Nash, Elias Gilbert, Alonzo B. Pulling, Miles N. Olmsted, Frank W. Lockwood, son of Jacob M. Lockwood; Rev. Nathan L. Rockwell and his son Rev. Nathan L. Rockwell, Jr.

The following is the list of ministers who have served in Ridgefield from 1790 until the first settled pastors:

Fairfield Circuit: 1790, John Bloodgood; 1791, Nathaniel Burton Mills, Aaron Hunt; 1792, Joshua Taylor, Smith Weeks; 1793, James Coleman, Aaron Hunt; 1794, Zebulon Kaukey, Nicholas Snethen.

Redding Circuit: 1795, Daniel Dennis, Timothy Dewey; 1796, Elijah Woolsey, Robert Leeds; 1797, David Buck, Augustus Jocelyn; 1798, William Thatcher; 1799, David Brown; 1800, Augustus Jocelyn; 1801, Samuel Merwin, Isaac Candee; 1802, James Coleman, Isaac Candee; 1803, James Campbell, N. U. Thompkins; 1804, Peter Moriarty, Sylvester Foster; 1805, Peter Moriarty, Samuel Merwin; 1806, Nathan Felch, Oliver Sykes; 1807, James M. Smith, Zalmon Lyon; 1808, Noble W. Thomas, Jonathan Lyon.

New York Conference: 1809, Billy Hibbard, Isaac Candee; 1810, Nathan Emory, John Russell; 1811, Aaron Hunt, Oliver Sykes, John Reynolds; 1812, Seth Crowell, Gilbert Lyon and S. Beach; 1813, Aaron Hunt, Henry Eames; 1814, Ebenezer Washburn, Reuben Harris; 1815, Elijah Woolsey, Reuben Harris; 1816, Samuel Bushnel, John Boyd; 1817, Samuel Bushnel, Theodocius Clarke; 1818, James M. Smith, Theodocius Clarke; 1819, J. S. Smith, Phineas Cook; 1820, Laban Clark, Phineas Cook; 1821, Laban Clark, Aaron Hunt; 1822, Samuel Cochrane, Aaron Hunt; 1823, Samuel Cochrane, John Reynolds; 1824, Elijah Woolsey, John Reynolds, Aaron Hunt, Superintendent.

In 1825 and until 1827 Ridgefield was on the Redding and Bridgeport circuit.

1825, Marvin Richardson, Humphrey Humphreys, Frederic W. Siger, Aaron Hunt, Superintendent; 1826, Marvin Richardson, Humphrey Humphreys, Aaron Hunt, Superintendent, Oliver Sykes, Superintendent; 1827, Henry Stead, John Lovejoy, J. C. Bontecue, Oliver Sykes, Superintendent.

In 1828 Ridgefield was joined to the Redding Circuit.

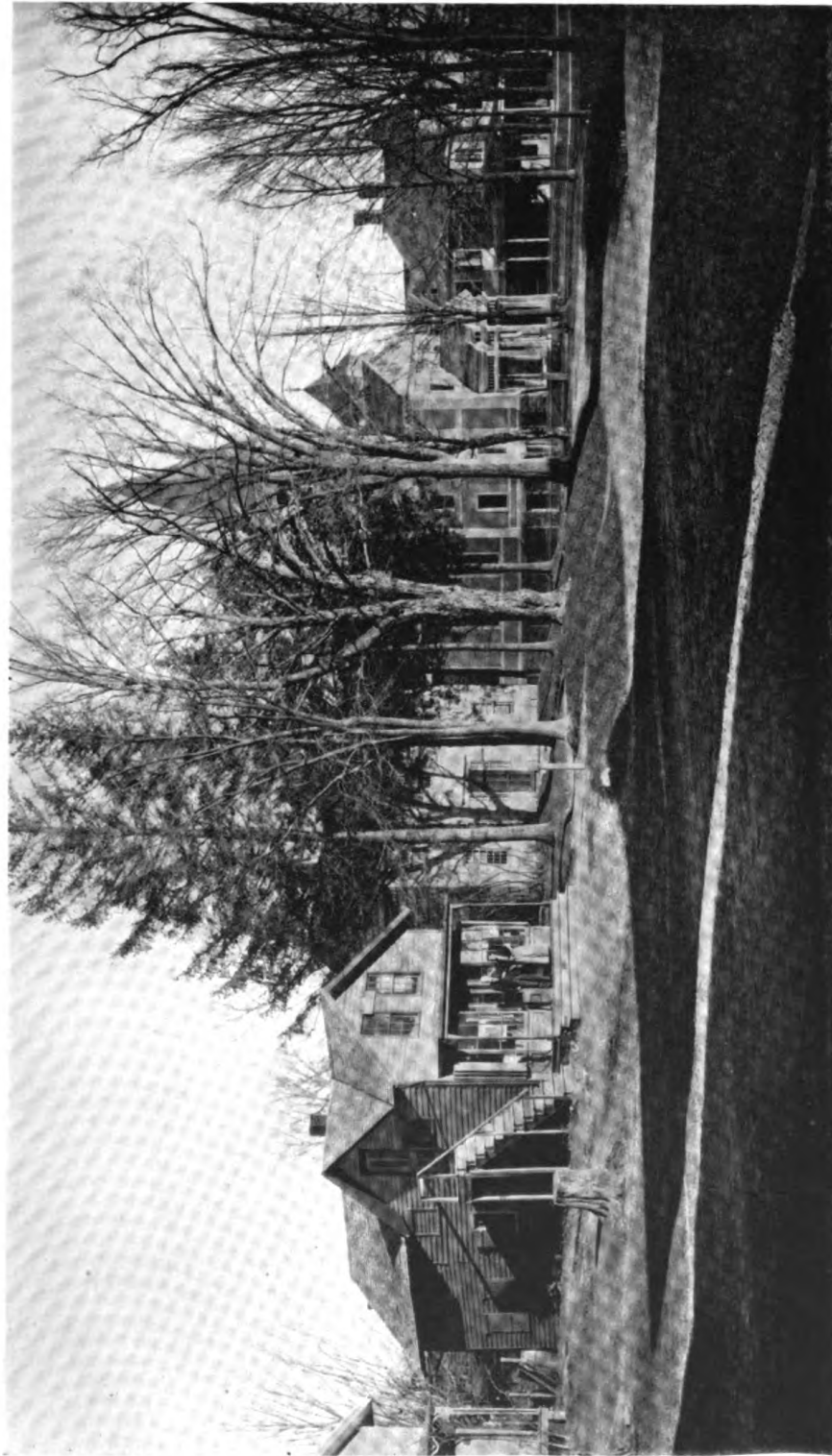
1828, Henry Stead, Gershom Pearce; 1829, Ebenezer Washburn, Gershom Pearce; 1830, Ebenezer Washburn, Oliver V. Ammerman; 1831, James Young, Josiah Bowen, Burton Beach; 1832, Nicholas White, Jesse Hunt; 1833, Jesse Hunt, John Burton Beach; 1834, Josiah Bowen, John Burton Beach.

Redding and Newtown Circuit: 1835, Humphrey Humphreys, Josiah L. Dickerson, John Davies.

In 1836, Ridgefield was separated from other appointments and became a station. Reverend Parmelee Chamberlain was the first settled pastor, and during his ministry of two years many new members joined the church. When he left in 1838, there was a total membership of one hundred and eighteen. In 1839 a great revival occurred under Reverend Thomas Sparks.

The church grew in such proportions that it was necessary to provide a larger place of worship. So in 1841, during the pastorate of Reverend Charles Chittenden, with a membership of nearly two hundred, a new church was built on the corner of Main and Catoonah Streets. It stood much nearer Main Street than the present building. It was succeeded, during the pastorate of Dr. George Lansing Taylor, by a new edifice, the present building, the cornerstone of which was laid in 1883 with impressive ceremonies. The new church is named the Jesse Lee Memorial Church.

In 1838, the site of the present church was purchased by Thomas Rockwell, Jabez Mix Gilbert and Elias Gilbert in behalf of the Trustees.



VIEW ON MAIN STREET.
Henry Mead's Grocery Store and Residence. (Mr. and Mrs. Mead are on the stoop.) To the right are the Methodist Church and Parsonage. To the left, corner of residence of J. William Benedict.

Of the clergymen who have gone from the Methodist Church, particular mention must be given of Reverend Nathan L. Rockwell, who entered the Mission Field in Korea. His untiring and unselfish devotion to his work resulted in his death from pneumonia on December 30th, 1910, a martyr to the Christian faith. His remains were brought home and he is buried in the family plot in Titicus Cemetery.

The following are the present members of the Board of Trustees in 1927: Richard W. Osborn, President, Samuel Nicholas, Francis D. Martin, Conrad Rockelein, Charles S. Nash, Henry L. Bouton, Winthrop E. Rockwell, Ira C. Wixsom, Fred R. Scofield.

The list of ministers stationed here from 1836 to the present time is as follows:

1836-1837	Rev. Parmelee Chamberlain
1838-1839	Rev. Thomas Sparks
1840	Rev. Seymour Van Deuzen
1841-1842	Rev. Charles Chittenden
1843-1844	Rev. Abram S. Francis
1845-1846	Rev. Charles Stearns
1847-1848	Rev. Sylvester S. Strong
1849-1850	Rev. Nathaniel Mead
1851	Rev. Ira Abbott
1852-1853	Rev. Reuben H. Loomis
1854-1855	Rev. Friend W. Smith
1856-1857	Rev. Joseph Wildey
1858-1859	Rev. Joseph Wooley
1860-1861	Rev. Joseph Smith
1862-1863	Rev. Calvin B. Ford
1864	Rev. Samuel F. Johnson
1865-1866	Rev. James D. Bouton
1867-1869	Rev. George L. Thompson
1870-1872	Rev. Larman W. Abbott
1873-1875	Rev. Theodore C. Beach
1876	Rev. John B. Merwin

1877	Rev. William Ross
1878-1880	Rev. Smith H. Platt
1881-1883	Rev. George Lansing Taylor
1884-1885	Rev. Jabez A. M. Chapman
1886-1887	Rev. Charles C. Lasby
1888-1890	Rev. John L. Peck
1891	Rev. John S. Whedon
1892-1893*	Rev. Henry E. Wing
1894-1896	Rev. Thomas H. Burch
1897-1898	Rev. Francis B. Upham
1899-1901	Rev. George E. Boswell
1902-1906	Rev. Horace W. Byrnes
1907-1908	Rev. Harvey W. Burnes
1909-1913	Rev. William H. Wood
1914-1917	Rev. John J. Snaveley
1918-1923	Rev. Edward D. Bassett
1924-1927	Rev. Wilmot P. Lord
1927-	Rev. Melville S. Bulmer

*Reverend Henry E. Wing had a most honorable record in the Civil War. He enlisted in Company C of the 27th Regiment, Conn. Vols., and was one of the twelve color guards at the Battle of Fredericksburg. In May, 1864, as a news correspondent, he met President Lincoln, and a strong friendship was formed between them. President Lincoln told Mr. Wing that he must call and see him whenever he was in Washington. Mr. Wing was at Spottsylvania, Cold Harbor, and Petersburg, and was wounded on the field of battle. In 1865 he was engaged in newspaper work on the "Litchfield Enquirer." He was in his office at Litchfield when the news came that Lincoln was dead. Mr. Wing formed many strong friendships in Ridgefield, and his departure was a matter of genuine regret.

CHAPTER XXIV

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

The first Catholic family to settle in Ridgefield was that of James Brophy, who came here on Thanksgiving Day, November 30th, 1848. For the first evidences of Catholicity in Ridgefield, we look back to the French Army, who under Count de Rochambeau, came through Ridgefield, camping in Ridgebury in 1781. They arrived Sunday afternoon, July 1st, and on the next day proceeded to Bedford. With this army, were the following chaplains: Robin, Gluson (or Glesnon), Lacy and St. Pierre. History further states that the army chaplains were surrounded at the various camping places by the descendants of Irishmen and Acadians and were begged by them to remain among them.

The History of the Catholic Church in the New England States gives as the first Catholic in Ridgefield, the name of Alexander de Resseguie, "a descendant of Dominique de Resseguier, who in 1579 resigned his position as Secular Abbot of the church of St. Afrodise de Beziers, in Languedoc, France." We find that soon after the arrival of James Brophy in Ridgefield other Irish and Catholic families followed. We find the names of Kelly, McGlynn, Murphy, Cahill, Fitzgerald, Short, Andrew Brophy, Mulhall, Halpin, Enright, Cullen, Gallagher, Whalen, Kerwin, Patrick Lannon and Purcell. Other families followed, until from fifty to seventy-five people assembled when it was announced that a priest would visit Ridgefield to hear confessions and offer up the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass.

The first priest to thus visit Ridgefield was Father Thomas Ryan, who, while on his way to Danbury from Norwalk, stopped at the home of James Brophy, and find-

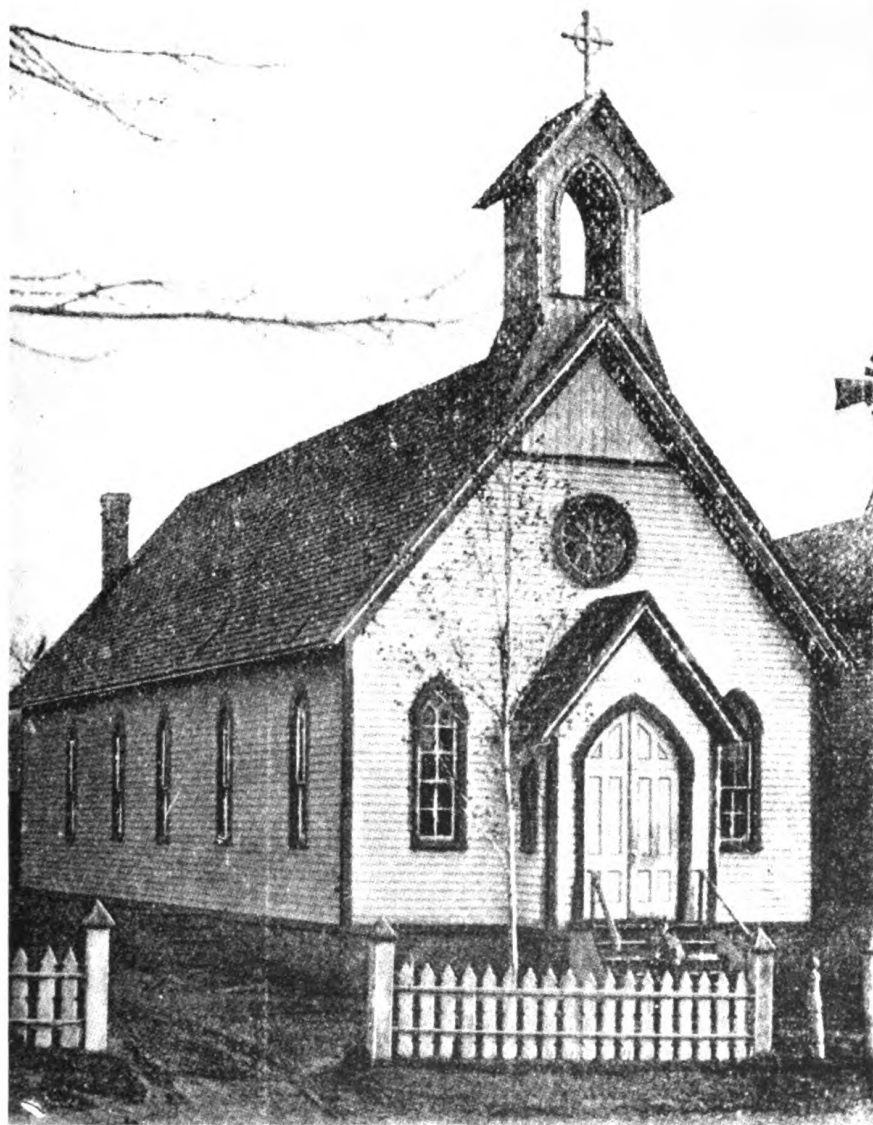
ing two of Mr. Brophy's relations near unto death, administered the last rites of the Church.

Following Father Ryan, came Father Michael O'Farrell, who, finding there was such a number of Catholics in Ridgefield, arranged to celebrate Mass monthly. Father O'Farrell generally came Saturday evenings to Mr. Brophy's house. He would hear confessions there that evening and say Mass Sunday morning about eight o'clock. He would then drive to Danbury and officiate there. The arduous work of attending to the wants of the Catholics in the outlying villages made inroads upon the health of Father O'Farrell, so that after only a year and a half of pastoral duties in Danbury, he went to New Haven Hospital where he died.

Father John Smith, Father Peter O'Kelly and Father Thomas Drea followed Father O'Farrell. From this time on, Mass was said in the different homes of the members until, because of the size of the congregations, services were held in the old Town Hall, five dollars being paid for its use on each occasion.

At length, it was decided to buy a site for a church. Efforts were made to purchase land, and although the Catholics at that time were few, their zeal and energy in the cause of their religion overcame all obstacles. On November 23rd, 1867, the plot of ground at the foot of Catoonah Street was purchased by James Enright and James Walsh, acting in the name of the Catholics of Ridgefield. An old frame house stood upon this plot, and it was used as a place of worship until it was destroyed by fire in 1868, when the old candlestick factory which stood next to it burned. The people were once more without a church, and for nearly nine years Mass was again celebrated in the homes and hall.

Their courage never flagged, and through their faith and self-sacrifice the means were provided for another church. Under the leadership of a few brave souls who



ORIGINAL CHURCH OF ST. MARY'S PARISH
Built 1879 — Enlarged 1888.

contributed fifty dollars, thirty dollars and twenty dollars, which was a considerable sum of money in those days, the Catholics of Ridgefield entered into the spirit of the enterprise with renewed zeal; they built a small church which was about the size of the building which is now a blacksmith shop. Reverend Martin A. Lawlor of Danbury, rector of St. Peter's Church, undertook the work. He was at first diffident of success, but having confidence in the zeal and good will of the people, gave it his encouragement and support. It was with great pleasure upon the completion of the church he received from Thomas McGlynn, the collector appointed by the committee, a receipt for all work completed, except fifty or sixty dollars which Father Lawlor himself contributed.

About 1878, Ridgefield was made a mission to Georgetown, at which place Father Thaddeus Walsh resided, having Redding also in charge. In 1880, Redding having been attached to the parish of Bethel, Father Walsh moved to Ridgefield, keeping Georgetown as a mission, where Mass is said every Sunday and Holy day by Reverend Father Shortell or his assistant, in the Church of the Sacred Heart. This church was built during the pastorate of Father Walsh and about 1912, through the efforts of Father Shortell, was considerably enlarged.

Father Walsh died in 1886 and is buried in St. Mary's Cemetery. Father Walsh is remembered by many in Ridgefield as a kind, genial priest, with a heart full of zeal and charity, knowing no reluctance when it was a question of duty, no fatigue when his flock called upon him for religious assistance. While of robust appearance, he was not at all a well man, and at the end of six years of genuine priestly life, he was called to his reward.

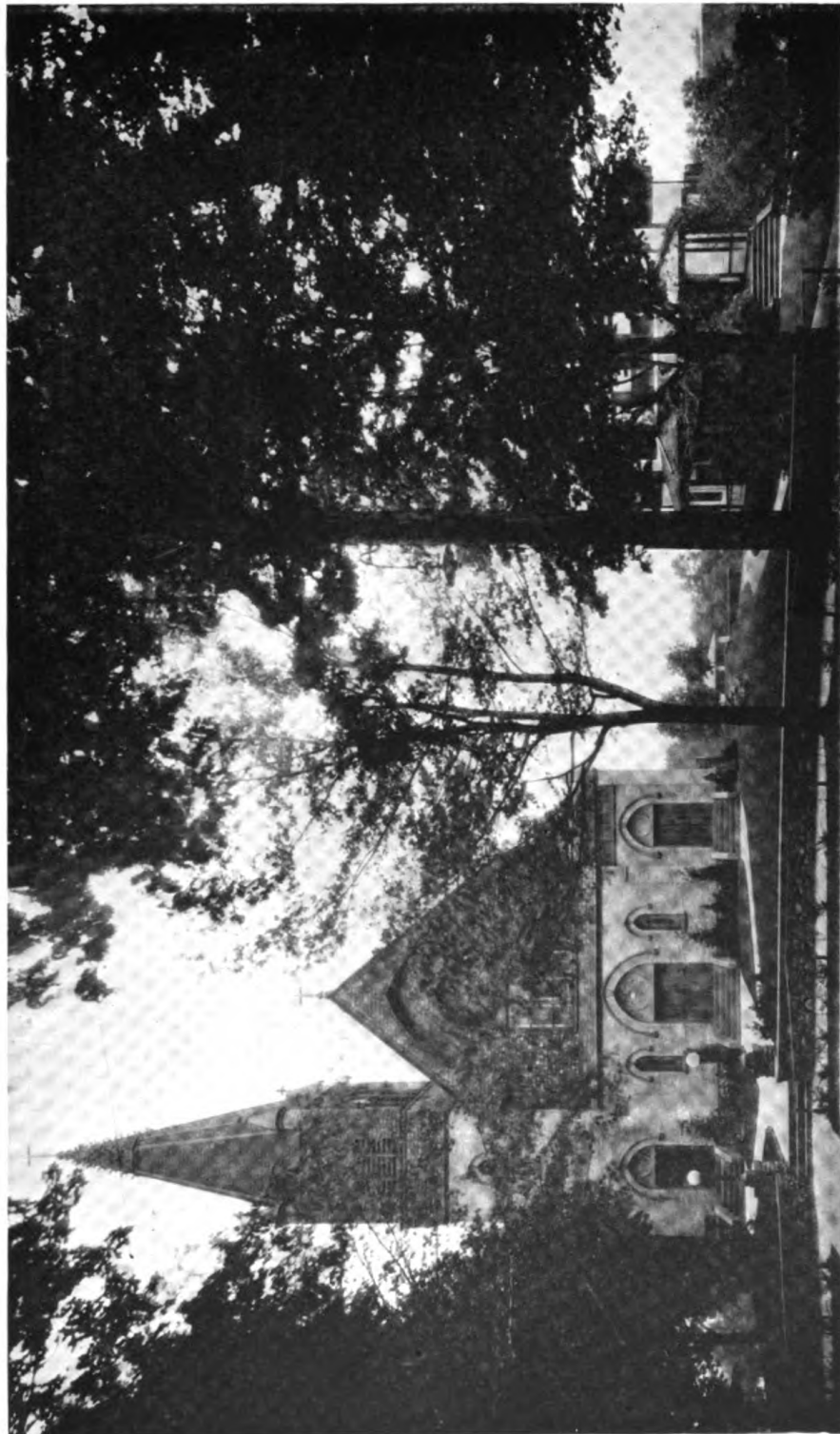
It was during the pastorate of Father Walsh that St. Mary's Cemetery was bought in August, 1882. It was blessed October 13th, 1883, by Bishop McMahon. Reverend Patrick Byrne succeeded Father Walsh, and for six

years faithfully attended the congregations of Ridgefield and Georgetown. During his residence, he enlarged the church and made other necessary improvements. In 1892 he resigned and was succeeded by Reverend Joseph O'Keefe, a scholarly priest and of refined sensibilities, capable of immense influence and good work had his health permitted. He was a man of mature years, and the hard winter work of attending both parishes compelled him to resign within the year of his appointment. During the pastorate of Father O'Keefe, a fund of five hundred and thirty-five dollars was established to purchase land upon which to build a new church and a parochial residence.

His resignation having been accepted, the present pastor, Reverend Richard E. Shortell, was transferred by Right Reverend Bishop McMahon from Danbury and took up his residence in Ridgefield May 30th, 1893. In September of this year, the ground upon which are located the present church and parochial residence was purchased from Jacob M. Lockwood for two thousand seven hundred and fifty dollars. In March, 1894, ground was broken for the rectory, which when completed was entirely free from debt. Work was commenced on the church in May, 1896, and on July 4th, the cornerstone was laid, Right Reverend Bishop Tierney officiating.

The following year, July 5th, 1897, witnessed the completion and dedication of the church. The church was dedicated under the patronage of the Mother of God.

On May 30th, 1907, the new club house was opened. On Thursday evening, September 12th, 1901, the bell was blessed by Right Reverend Bishop Tierney. A sermon appropriate to the occasion was preached by Father Thomas Duggan, the present Vicar-General of the Diocese. The first time that the bell was tolled was when word was received of the death of President McKinley. The church, standing at the head of Catoonah Street, occupies a place of commanding prominence in the village. It was com-



ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH AND RECTORY.

pleted entirely free from debt, and the property grows in beauty and refinement as time passes.

At this writing, Reverend Richard E. Shortell is in his thirty-fifth year as pastor, in years of service surpassing all other clergymen who ever ministered in Ridgefield, save Reverend Samuel Camp of the Congregational Church in Ridgebury, who was here from January 18, 1769, to November, 1804, a period of thirty-five years and ten months. For many years Father Shortell occupied a place upon the board of education, serving as school visitor for sixteen years, and always a zealous public spirited citizen, his best efforts have ever been for a better and cleaner Ridgefield.

The Holy Name Society, the Ladies Aid Society, and the Knights of Columbus have been organized under his guidance. In July, 1910, the Ladies Aid Society was formed, doing inestimable work in the parish. January 19, 1913, the Holy Name Society was established with over a hundred members.

Four young men of St. Mary's parish have entered the priesthood; Reverend Alexander F. Mitchell, who was ordained at Eichstatt, Bavaria, and is the present Pastor of St. Rose's Church, Burnside. On May 26th, 1923, Reverend Robert Leo Christopher was ordained a priest at St. Joseph's Cathedral, Hartford, and celebrated his first Mass at St. Mary's Church, Ridgefield, on Sunday, May 27th. Reverend Francis H. McGlynn was ordained a priest March 7th, 1925, and celebrated his first Mass at St. Mary's Church, Ridgefield, on March 8th. Father McGlynn was ordained at the college of the Holy Ghost Fathers in West Norwalk. Reverend Clement Roach was ordained August 28th, 1926, at the college of the Holy Ghost Fathers in West Norwalk, and celebrated his first Mass at St. Mary's Church, Ridgefield, August 29th, 1926.

Two young men of the parish preparing for the priest-

hood, Peter Frederick Roach and Robert G. Ballantyne, died before completing their studies.

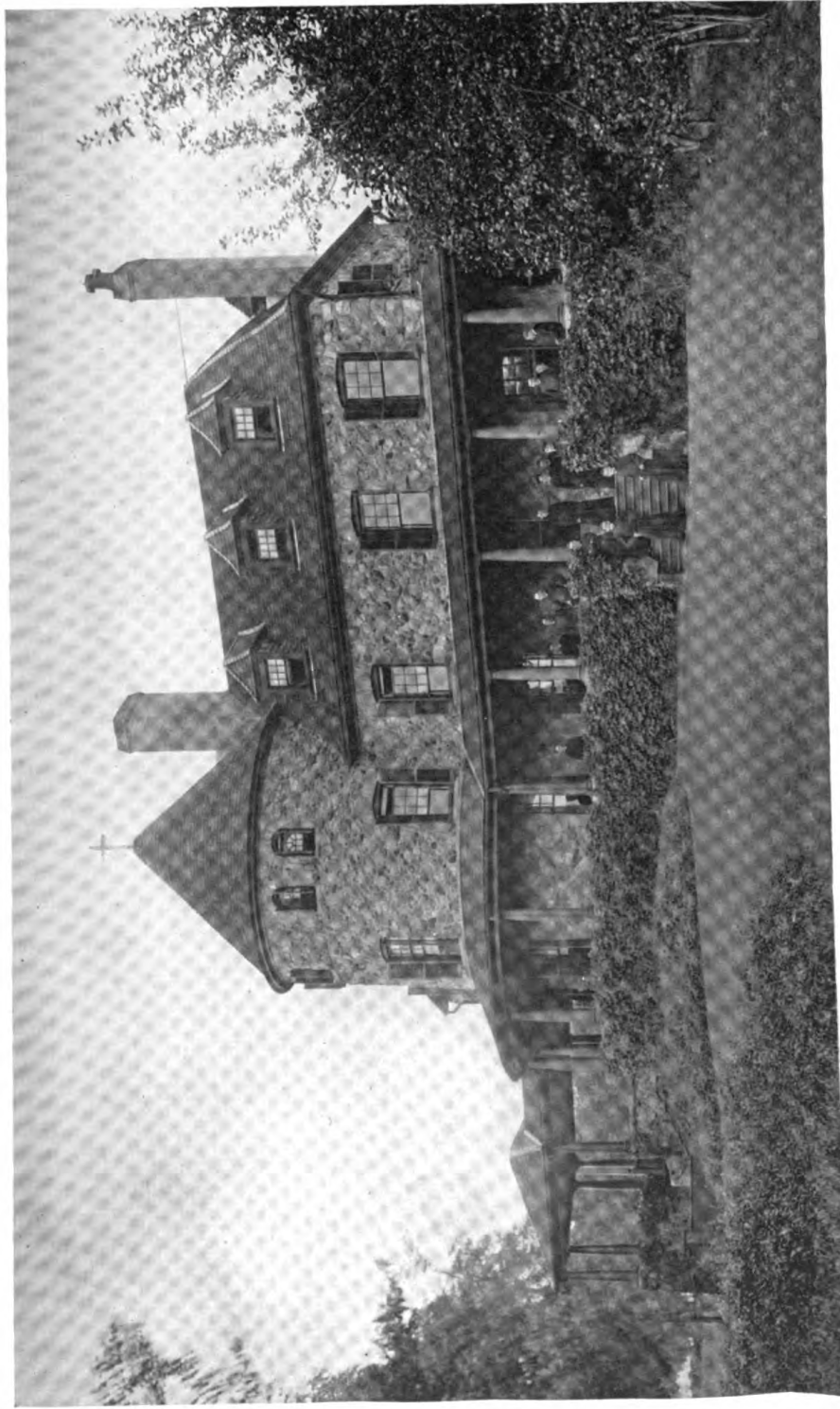
William Lynch, of St. Mary's Parish, joined the Order of the Marist Brothers at Poughkeepsie on July 25th, 1922, at the age of sixteen years.

His name in the order is Brother William Francis. Brother William Francis taught in the Marist Brothers School in Baltimore for two years. At the present writing, he is teaching in St. Ann's Academy in New York City.

A Service Flag with fifty-five stars was raised at St. Mary's Church on November 25th, 1917, in honor of the men serving in the World War from the Parish of Ridgefield, including Georgetown.

In the Spring of 1922, the Holy Ghost Fathers purchased the former Cheesman property on East Ridge, establishing here a Novitiate in connection with the Mission Seminary, Ferndale, West Norwalk. Reverend Father Frederick T. Hoeger, C.S.Sp., who since September, 1914, frequently assisted Father Shortell at St. Mary's Church, was placed in charge. It is here that the students preparing for the missionary priesthood spend their year of probation which takes place mid-way between the college and seminary course. Among the assistants at St. Mary's Parish in recent years are Reverend Joseph Roth, C.S.Sp., Reverend Joseph Byrnes, C.S.Sp., Reverend Frederick T. Hoeger, C.S.Sp., and Reverend Michael J. Brannigan, C.S.Sp. Reverend Father William P. Reidy, who is now pastor at St. James' Church, South Manchester, and Reverend Jeremiah Broderick, who is the pastor at St. Bernard's Church, Tariffville, were also assistants in recent years. In 1921, Father Byrne was called abroad, serving as Provincial in Ireland. He is now stationed in Paris at the International Headquarters of the Holy Ghost Fathers.

The Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes was dedicated Sunday, May 31st, 1925, at the Holy Ghost Novitiate on East Ridge. Several hundred people were present at the



NOVITIATE OF THE HOLY GHOST FATHERS, EAST RIDGE.



SHRINE OF "OUR LADY OF LOURDES",
at the Holy Ghost Novitiate, East Ridge.

dedication. This grotto is situated near the highway and from its location is called "The Wayside Shrine."

The twenty-fifth anniversary of the dedication of St. Mary's Church was celebrated on Sunday, July 30th, 1922. Through the untiring efforts of Father Shortell and the earnest and zealous co-operation of its members, the church, parish house, rectory, walks, grounds, were all put in shape, and the interior of the church was decorated. Appropriate and full of meaning, the decorations have received the greatest praise.

On Sunday, June 1st, 1924, the addition to St. Mary's Cemetery was dedicated. Nearly one thousand people were present on this solemn occasion. Old and young, regardless of creed, flocked in crowds to witness this rare and ancient ceremony. Father Shortell was especially delegated by Bishop Nilan to perform the ceremony of the benediction of the cemetery. The sermon was preached by Reverend Father Brannigan. The blessing of the Calvary group, located in the new section, followed the dedication of the cemetery.



CHAPTER XXV

THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE SOCIETY

This chapter concludes the history of the established churches in Ridgefield. The last religious society to be instituted in our town is the Christian Science Society, a denomination which has been holding services since its organization on March 24th, 1924, and to which some of our respected citizens belong. The Society was organized with nineteen members. Services are held in the society's rooms on the corner of Catoonah Street.



BOYHOOD HOME OF PETER PARLEY.

House was built in 1797 by Reverend Samuel G. Goodrich. Later it was the property of William O. Seymour, and now is owned by Mrs. H. D. Colt.

CHAPTER XXVI

PETER PARLEY

Of the many distinguished sons of Ridgefield, none has enjoyed the prominence of Samuel Griswold Goodrich, Jr., known throughout the world as Peter Parley. In his day as a writer his name was one of international renown. He was born in Ridgefield in West Lane, in an old house nearly opposite the present Golf Lane. His father was Reverend Samuel Griswold Goodrich and his mother Elizabeth Ely, daughter of Colonel John Ely of Saybrook, Connecticut, who had an honorable and brilliant record in the Revolutionary War. He was the sixth of a family of ten, and the fifth child born in Ridgefield. He was born on August 9th, 1793.

In his "Recollections of a Lifetime," to which the writer is largely indebted for much valuable information, Mr. Goodrich recalls distinctly the moving of the family from the old house on West Lane to the new house on High Ridge. The "new house" is still standing, and its original lines are easily seen, despite the several additions and changes that have been made. Most of the houses in Ridgefield were unpainted, but this new residence was given a coat of white paint in front and a coat of red paint in the rear.

Mr. Goodrich relates that one thing vividly remained in his memory when the family removed from the old house. He was barefoot, and as they passed up the lane near the new house the path led them over a blackened place, covered with cinders and pieces of melted glass. It was the site of one of the houses burned by the British troops, as a signal to their ships, as stated elsewhere in these pages.

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At the age of six years, the youthful Samuel first went to school. This was in West Lane, where the school house stood in those days on the same site as now. Aunt Delight Benedict was his first teacher. Dilworth's Spelling Book was used and many anecdotes are told of his first years at school. In the winter season two years later, Lewis Olmsted taught the school, — "a man who had a calling for plowing, mowing, carting manure, etc., in summer, and for teaching school in the winter, with a talent for music on all occasions." In later years, when asked from what college he graduated, Peter Parley invariably replied "West Lane," pronounced to sound like "*Wesleyan*."

Though only six years old, he remembered the death of Washington. In Ridgefield, the meeting house was draped in black; the Connecticut Courant was brought to the house, and he relates that the paper bordered with black "left its indelible ink in my memory."

Mr. Goodrich recalls when, in 1804, Jerome Bonaparte and his young wife, the former Miss Patterson, came to Ridgefield stopping at Keeler's Tavern.

Among the callers at his father's house was Oliver Wolcott,* who was a member of Washington's cabinet, and afterwards Governor of Connecticut, and a participant in the Battle of Ridgefield. Lieutenant Governor John Treadwell of Farmington, afterwards governor of the state, also was a visitor at the Goodrich home.

Reverend Samuel Goodrich kept a school in his home, some of his scholars coming from Danbury and New Haven. Some years later, Hugh S. Banks kept a school in this

*Oliver Wolcott was the surviving member of President Washington's official family. He was born in Litchfield in 1760 and died in New York City, June 2, 1833. He graduated from Yale College in 1778. At the age of seventeen, he served in the American Army, and upon the formation of the United States Government, he was appointed first Auditor of the Treasury. In 1794 Mr. Wolcott succeeded Alexander Hamilton as Secretary of the Treasury. In 1817, he was elected Governor of Connecticut, which office he held ten years.



REV. SAMUEL G. GOODRICH

Third pastor of the Congregational Church of Ridgefield. Father of Peter Parley.

same building. After Mr. Banks, Honorable William O. Seymour, who purchased the property, also conducted a school where many young men were educated and went forth to fill capably positions in the religious, business and political world.

Mr. Goodrich tells of many interesting reminiscences of his childhood. Among them, he relates that on the morning of September 14th, 1807, as he was building the kitchen fire, the room was suddenly filled with a bright light. Upon looking out of the window, he saw a ball of fire, nearly the size of the moon, passing across the heavens from northwest to southeast. He describes it as being at an immense height and of intense brilliancy. At a great elevation, it burst, with three successive explosions like three claps of thunder in quick succession. The next day, news was received that this meteor had fallen in Weston, ten miles distant. Professors from Yale College visited the spot to examine the fragments. One piece, weighing twenty-five pounds, may be seen at the present time in the mineralogical collection at Yale College.

In the autumn of 1808, Mr. Goodrich went to Danbury to enter the store of Amos Cooke, the husband of his oldest sister, Sarah. He did not enjoy life as a clerk. The father of his brother-in-law was Colonel Joseph P. Cooke, who succeeded to the command of the troops at Ridgefield after General Wooster received his death wound. He was still living with his son in Danbury at the time of Mr. Goodrich's clerkship.

In 1809 he visited New Haven with his sister and brother-in-law. Yale College was of special interest to him, as he tells that his grandfather and the latter's four sons all had been graduated there. He visited New Haven Bay and for the first time, to quote his words, "stood upon the shore of that living sea, which through my whole childhood had spread its blue bosom before me, in the distant horizon."

A week was spent in Woodbury, where they were entertained by Reverend Noah Benedict, his brother-in-law's uncle. Mr. Goodrich tells us that the week of his sojourn in Woodbury flew on golden wings, the village itself being after his own heart.

In 1811 Mr. Goodrich went to Hartford, taking a position in a dry goods store. His parents had removed from Ridgefield to Berlin, which was only eleven miles from Hartford, and thus he was once more near home. His uncle, Chauncey Goodrich, was then United States Senator, living in Hartford in a nearby street.

In 1813 Samuel G. Goodrich enlisted in a company of coast artillery for service in the War of 1812. For several months this company was on duty in New London and Groton.

In 1814 Mr. Goodrich was living with his uncle Chauncey who was one of the leading members of the Hartford Convention, which was composed of many prominent statesmen of New England. He was thus brought in close touch with the leading men in this section of the United States. In this year, with a friend, he started the manufacture of pocketbooks, but the venture was unsuccessful. On account of a serious affection of the eyes, he left Hartford soon after, and spent most of his time for a year with his parents in Berlin. During these few years at Hartford, Mr. Goodrich had studied French, and upon his return to his parents, learned to dance.

In the spring of 1815, he visited New York City, and the following summer with his Uncle Chauncey visited the springs at Ballston and Saratoga. On August 18th, 1815, Chauncey Goodrich died suddenly. He was Lieutenant Governor at the time of his death, John Cotton Smith being Governor.

In 1816, Goodrich went into the publishing business with his friend, George Sheldon. In 1817 the latter died



MRS. SAMUEL G. GOODRICH,
wife of the third pastor of the Congregational Church, and mother of Peter Parley.

after a short illness, and Mr. Goodrich continued the business alone.

In 1818, Mr. Goodrich married Adeline Gratia, daughter of Stephen Rowe Bradley, of Westminster, Vermont. The latter was an aide to General Wooster and was with him when he was shot at the Battle of Ridgefield. He was one of the first senators from Vermont when that state entered the Union in 1791.

For four years, Mr. Goodrich continued as a publisher. In 1821 a fall from a horse compelled him to use crutches for a year. Soon after, his wife died, leaving him a daughter. He felt that a change of scene was necessary, and Mr. Goodrich in November, 1823, sailed for Europe.

His first book, "Parley's Tales of the Sea" was written abroad and published in 1823 (according to his daughter, Mrs. Emily Goodrich Smith, though in his "Recollections of a Lifetime" the date is given as 1831). It is of great interest to note how he chose his nom de plume. While conjugating the French verb "parler," to speak, Mr. Goodrich found the nom de plume which he had long sought.

During his life in Hartford and travels nearby, Mr. Goodrich had many opportunities to meet the literateurs of the day. Many of them were his personal friends. Among them may be mentioned Nathaniel Hawthorne, Mrs. Lydia Huntley Sigourney, James Fenimore Cooper, Washington Irving, and Nathaniel Parker Willis.

Mr. Goodrich was Master of St. John's Lodge Number Four, Hartford, in 1825. On June 17th of that year, he was present at the laying of the cornerstone of the Bunker Hill Monument. He attended this celebration in his official capacity as deputy from the Grand Lodge of Connecticut. Upon this occasion, he graphically describes General Lafayette, Daniel Webster, Samuel F. B. Morse, and others who were present.

It was on the sixteenth day of November when Mr. Goodrich set sail from New York in the packet ship Can-

ada, and on December eighth, he landed at Liverpool. The voyage was tempestuous as usual at that season of the year. After spending a month in London, he went to Paris and thence to Switzerland, a portion of Germany, down the Rhine to Cologne, thence through Flanders and Holland and down the Meuse and back to London. Visiting Bristol and Salisbury and then to Barleywood, ten miles distant, where he was received with great cordiality by Mrs. Hannah More, who was then seventy-nine years old. She spoke very freely to him of her writings. From Barleywood, he went to Wales, then embarking at Holyhead, went to Ireland. Visiting Dublin and the Giant's Causeway, he returned by way of Belfast, crossing in a steamboat to Greenock. Visiting Loch Lomond, he proceeded to Edinburgh. In Edinburgh, he met Sir Walter Scott, who was at that time in the full strength of his career. In April, 1824, he returned to London, where he saw King George IV. Mr. Goodrich's description of him is not very flattering. The Duke of Wellington was often seen on the streets at that time. Days and weeks were spent by Mr. Goodrich in visiting many places of historical interest, and the House of Commons and the House of Lords. While in London, the mortal remains of Lord Byron arrived from Greece. Crowds visited the bier, but when Mr. Goodrich arrived the coffin had been closed. After a hurried trip to Paris and return, he embarked at Liverpool, arriving in the United States in October, 1824. He remained in Hartford two years longer, then moved to Boston, the Athens of America, with the intention of publishing his original works.

In 1828 he published two volumes of the *Legendary*, which was designed as a periodical to consist of original pieces in prose and poetry principally to illustrate American history, customs, manners and scenery. It was edited by Nathaniel Parker Willis and among the contributors were many literary geniuses as Halleck, J. O. Rockwell,



SAMUEL G. GOODRICH — PETER PARLEY

Miss Sedgwick, Miss Francis, Mrs. Sigourney, Willis, Pierpont, Cutter, Crosby and other popular writers. The first volume of the *Token* was published in 1826 and continued until 1842. In 1828 he published Peter Parley's "Tales about Europe." In 1829 Parley's "Winter Evening Tales." In 1830 Parley's "Juvenile Tales" and Parley's "Asia, Africa, Sun, Moon and Stars." The last work that came from his pen was a "Natural History of the Animal Kingdom," written in 1859.

In 1832 Mr. Goodrich was stricken with a severe attack of heart trouble, and embarked for Europe to consult specialists. He returned home improved in health, and took up his residence at Jamaica Plain, near Boston, where he lived for twenty years.

Many annoyances arose through the publication of other writers using the name of Peter Parley, and many spurious works were written about this time falsifying his name.

Passing along, we find Mr. Goodrich making a trip through the South. He visited New Orleans, and returned by way of the Mississippi and Ohio Rivers.

The first public appearance of Mr. Goodrich was at Tremont Temple in Boston, where he spoke on Ireland and the Irish. A mob in Boston had destroyed much Roman Catholic property, burning a church and destroying a business block and the small homes of many poor Irish who had not been long in America. It was in the cause of the latter, poor and destitute, that Mr. Goodrich lectured. His lecture was highly commended, and he repeated it forty times.

In the second year of President Fillmore's term, Mr. Goodrich was appointed Consul at Paris. He arrived in Paris in April, 1851, and taking charge of the office of the Consulate, he filled the position to which he had been appointed in the most efficient and acceptable manner. While Consul at Paris, Mr. Goodrich was presented with a medallion, executed in vermeil, of himself, described as

being as large as a dinner plate. It was the work of the distinguished artist, Adam-Salomon. It was of silver triple gilt and elegantly framed. The following words were engraved around the edge, with a profile of Mr. Goodrich in the center :

"TO S. G. GOODRICH, CONSUL OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AT PARIS PRESENTED BY HIS COUNTRYMEN IN THIS CITY. AUGUST 1ST, 1853."

Upon the accession of Franklin Pierce to the Presidency of the United States, Mr. Goodrich was recalled from his position, despite the opposition of hundreds of people to this act. His successor took office August 1st, 1853. A petition, signed by over two hundred and fifty French and Americans to retain Mr. Goodrich in the Consular Service, was sent to Washington in vain. Returning to the United States, Mr. Goodrich gave up his home in New York and purchased the old brick house in Southbury, now a Lutheran Home for the Aged.

On a Monday, May 7th, 1860, Mr. Goodrich went to New York City on business, and died quietly and peacefully while he was conversing with his brother at the latter's house. The news was brought to Southbury, bringing sorrow and sadness to the hearts of his neighbors and friends.

Funeral services were held in St. Bartholomew's Church in the city. Major General John A. Dix was one of the pallbearers. The remains were brought to Seymour by train, and then home through Oxford to his late residence in Southbury. On Sunday, May 13th, 1860, all that was mortal of this great man was laid to rest. It is related that crowds gathered at the house, the churches being closed for twenty miles around. The house and grounds were thronged with masses who had come to pay their last respect and tribute to the "Children's Teacher and Friend."



SILHOUETTE OF PETER PARLEY IN HIS STUDY.



TOMBSTONES OF SAMUEL G. GOODRICH AND HIS WIFE (MARY BOOTT)
*in the Southbury, Connecticut Cemetery. A book is engraved on the stone over
the grave of Mr. Goodrich and a cross on the stone marking the grave of his wife.*

The Cemetery is but a short distance above his late home. Several hundred children, from Woodbury, Watertown, Southbury, Oxford and other nearby towns, led the procession from the house to the grave, strewing flowers and singing on the way. There are many elderly men and women still living who remember this sad occasion in their young lives. The cemetery is by the roadside. His wife, Mary Boott Goodrich, was buried by his side in 1868. Two tomb-stones of Italian marble mark the graves, and may be easily seen by the passing traveler. Upon the stone of Mr. Goodrich aside from the customary lettering is an open book. Upon that of his wife is a cross. The inscriptions are as follows:

(Open Book Above Inscription)

SAMUEL G. GOODRICH

BORN AUG. 19, 1793

DIED MAY 9,

1860

(Cross and Crown above Inscription)

MARY BOOTT

WIDOW OF

SAMUEL G. GOODRICH

DIED

NOV. 1, 1868

AGED 62

Eight of the ten children of Reverend Samuel Goodrich lived to manhood or womanhood. The two dying in infancy are buried in the old Ridgefield Cemetery in Titicus. Beneath the friendly shade of a spreading maple, there are two little graves, where over a century ago the little ones were laid to rest. The stones marking the graves are inscribed as follows:

EMILY C. GOODRICH	ELIHU CHAUNCEY
Daut. of REV. SAMUEL &	GOODRICH
MRS. ELIZABETH	SON OF THE REV.
GOODRICH	SAMUEL & MRS. ELIZABETH GOODRICH
BORN NOV. 25, 1801	DIED JUNE 9TH, 1797
DIED OCT. 22, 1803	AGE 1 YR. & 7 MONTHS

Many articles owned by Peter Parley are now in the possession of Mrs. Edward S. Boyd of Woodbury. Among these objects is a blue and white China foot tub about two feet long. Its principal use at the present time is for holding punch and lemonade at card parties and church suppers. Mrs. Boyd has a large library containing many volumes by Peter Parley.

CHAPTER XXVII

MINOR WARS

THE SEMINOLE WAR

Two men from Ridgefield were participants in the Seminole War; James Elsea and William L. Dean. This conflict was waged in Florida from 1835 to 1842.

The first Seminole War was from 1816 to 1818. It is the second war which is usually referred to as "The Seminole War."

The detailed service of these Ridgefield men in the Everglades is not known to the author. The late Colonel Hiram K. Scott personally knew the two soldiers above mentioned and of their service in this conflict, the fiercest of all wars waged by the United States against the Indians.

THE MEXICAN WAR

The Mexican War caused much excitement throughout the entire land. The dissemination of news by means of the daily paper was at this period rapidly growing, and the citizens of our town were able to keep pace with events.

The Democratic party, which supported the war, and the Whig party strongly in opposition, both had their ardent supporters in Ridgefield, as elsewhere in the country. Records give us the names of two men from Ridgefield who were actually engaged in this war.

John Holland. 7th Connecticut Infantry, Co. H, mustered in May 1, 1847. Discharged July 31, 1848.

John Porter. 9th Connecticut Infantry, Co. F, enlisted March 23, 1847. Discharged August 24, 1848.

THE SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR

Ridgefield was represented by two men in the Spanish-American War of 1898;* Arthur F. Eilenstein and Rufus H. King, Jr. Their records are as follows:

Arthur F. Eilenstein. New York Volunteers, 1st Regt., 2nd Co., Capt. Franz Mayer, enlisted at New York City, Disch. Dec. 1, 1898. (Mr. Eilenstein served 3 years in the German Army in Saxony.)

Rufus H. King, Jr. 1st Naval Battalion, N. Y. N. G. Drafted from National Guard to crew of U. S. S. Yankee. Enlisted U. S. Navy at Brooklyn Navy Yard as an ordinary seaman on U. S. S. Yankee attached to Admiral Sampson's fleet. Under fire in action in West Indies.

At the present time, there are several veterans of this war now living in Ridgefield. Their names and records are as follows:

William Creagh. California Vols., 1st Regt., Co. M, Santa Barbara Sharp Shooters, Capt. Warren.

John Dowling. Enlisted 1884, in Co. G, 9th Regt., N. Y. National Guards, Col. James Fisk. He was drill sergeant. With others in the 9th Regt., he volunteered in the Spanish American War. At Ft. Hancock. Service, Albuquerque, New Mexico. Mr. Dowling was a charter member of the 9th Regt. Veteran Association for many years.

Edward F. Lang. Corp., Co. E, 9th Regt., N. Y. Vols., Infantry, at Chickamauga Park, Ga., mustered in May 2, 1898. Disch. Nov. 15, 1898.

George E. Mantell. Enlisted Apr., 1898, at Providence, R. I., Co. A, 1st Regt., R. I. Infantry, Capt. Chas. Tillinghast. Service, Camp Alger, Thoroughfare Gap, Camp Mead. Mustered out at Providence, Nov., 1898.

James D. Sweeney. Enlisted at Rochester, N. Y., July, 1898. Served at Ft. Slocum, where he was mustered out.

Another veteran of this war who made his home in Ridgefield for many years is John G. Reilly. Mr. Reilly enlisted the day war was declared in April, 1898, in Company C, 21st Infantry, U. S. Regular Army. He enlisted at

*President McKinley issued his call for volunteers in the war with Spain on April 28, 1899. Connecticut in less than sixty days responded with 3,400 men. This number was 1,148 more than the quota of the state.

Washington, D. C. Mr. Reilly was with Roosevelt at the storming of San Juan Hill, and saw much active service.

Frederick Remington, the celebrated artist, who was a resident of Ridgefield at the time of his death, was a War Correspondent in the Spanish-American War.

THE MEXICAN BORDER WAR

The Mexican Border War was of short duration, yet several men from Ridgefield were actively engaged in this disturbance, as the following list will show:

Robert P. Bissell. Private, N. Y. National Guard, 7th Regt., Co. B, Promoted to Corp. and Sergt. On duty along Rio Grande.

William R. Cushman. N. Y. National Guard, Medical Corps, 7th Regt., On duty along Rio Grande.

Cass Gilbert, Jr. Yale Battery, Co. D, Capt. Hincks.

George G. Haven, Jr. Yale Battery, Co. D, Capt. Hincks.

John W. Hubbard. 17th Service Co., 7th Regt., Service in Texas, New Mexico and Arizona. Participant in skirmish with Mexicans near Nogales. Enlisted at Ft. Wood, New York City.

Thomas E. Kelly. Yale Battery, Co. D, Capt. Hincks.

Earl W. Panzer. 1st Conn. Field Co., Signal Troops, Corp. Apr. 19, 1916; Sergt., Apr. 3, 1917. Service along Mexican border at Nogales, Ariz. July 8-Oct. 1916.

George Riggs, Jr. N. Y. National Guard, 7th Regt., Co. K, Service along Rio Grande.

George G. Scott, Jr. Yale Battery, Co. D, Capt. Hincks.

Oscar F. Johnson, enlisted New Haven, Troop A Cavalry. Service at Nogales and elsewhere along the Mexican Border.

CHAPTER XXVIII

THE CIVIL WAR

"He wasn't shot a minute too quick," said one prominent citizen of Ridgefield when he heard of the assassination of President Lincoln; but, thank God, this sentiment did not prevail in our town, as the records of the tombstones in Ridgefield mutely proclaim. The long line of volunteers in the cause of national unity and racial liberty make town history of which Ridgefield may justly be proud.*

At the beginning of the Civil War there were many men employed in the diversified industries of Ridgefield. The Cabinet Shops, Candle-stick Factory and Carriage Manufactory lost many of their craftsmen, who served in this bloody conflict. The majority of the volunteers, however, came from the farms.

Many lost their lives upon the battlefield, or in Confederate prisons, while others came home to die. A large proportion of our volunteers were wounded as the soldiers from Ridgefield took an active part in the conflicts of the South, being engaged in the Battles of Bull Run, Antietam, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, Cold Harbor, The Wilderness, The Shenandoah Valley, Petersburg, and the campaigns in North Carolina, Florida and Louisiana. Our soldiers were scattered throughout all parts of the Confederacy.

*During the Civil war there were persons in Ridgefield who openly espoused the cause of the Confederacy. In the North, these people were called Copperheads. True to their name, some Copperheads in Ridgefield cut the "heads" out of old fashioned copper pennies and attaching them to their hats, literally and visibly proclaimed themselves "Copperheads."

At home, public meetings were held, and the feelings of the people, long confined, burst forth with fervent patriotism.

In the summer and fall of 1861, many volunteers from Ridgefield enlisted in defense of the Union. Two Ridgefield men, Nathan Couch and George W. Banker, enlisted in April, 1861, in the Wooster Guards of Danbury. This company is said to be the first in the United States to offer its services after President Lincoln's call for men. It left for the front April 19, 1861, only six days after the shot fired upon Fort Sumter.

On April 26th, 1861, the Selectmen of the town called a special town meeting to be held May 4th to make provision for the families of those persons in Ridgefield who may volunteer their services to the United States; to lay a tax if necessary; to give instructions to the Selectmen if necessary; and to make any appropriations; and to take any other steps proper and necessary to carry out the purpose aforesaid. The selectmen of this time were Ebenezer Hawley, a veteran of the War of 1812, Amos Smith and Smith Keeler. At this meeting, William Lee was chosen Moderator and Henry Smith 2nd, Clerk "pro tem." The town meeting adopted the following resolutions:

"Whereas, the people of the United States within the Union, and under their own Government, have for three quarters of a century enjoyed an unparalleled prosperity and progress, for the continuance of which the Constitution of the United States is the perpetual guaranty; and

Whereas an armed rebellion now threatens the very existence of that Government, seizing the forts, arsenals, navy-yards, and hospitals which belong to the people of the United States, and consummating its crime by firing upon the flag of the nation, the glorious symbol of our liberty, and our general welfare,

Resolved, That it was the duty of all persons in the country to resort to the peaceful and legal means of redress provided by the Constitution, and that when, instead of so doing, they took up arms, and organized resistance

to the Government of the country, they struck at the very heart of organized civil society.

Resolved, that the Government of the United States has properly sought every kind of forbearance to avoid the sad necessity of asserting its authority by force of arms; but that it is at length manifest to the whole world that it must subdue or be subdued.

Resolved, That in forcibly maintaining that authority elsewhere within its dominions, and at every cost, the Government wages no war of conquest, but simply does its duty, expecting every citizen to do the same, and to take care that the doom of the rebels and traitors, who would ruin the most beneficent government in the world, and so destroy the hope of free popular institutions forever, shall be swift, sudden and overwhelming.

Resolved, That when the supreme authority of the Government of the people of the United States shall have been completely established, we, with all other good citizens, will cheerfully cooperate in any measures that may be taken in accordance with the Constitution fully to consider and lawfully to redress all grievances that may anywhere be shown to exist, yielding ourselves, and expecting all others to yield to the will of the whole people constitutionally expressed.

Resolved, That we, loyal citizens of Ridgefield, hereby before God and man, take the oath of fidelity to the sacred flag of our country, and to the cause of popular liberty and constitutional government which that flag represents, pledging ourselves to each other that by the love we bear our native land, and our unfaltering faith in the principles of Government, we will transmit to our children unimpaired, the great heritage of blessings we have received from our fathers."

On motion it was voted that an appropriation be made from the treasury of the Town of Ridgefield for the support of the families of the residents of this town who shall volunteer in accordance with the call of the President of the United States, in the present national troubles; and the appropriations shall be expended as follows, viz.: to the wife of each volunteer the sum of two dollars per week, and fifty cents per week for each child that such

volunteer may have dependent on him for support under twelve years of age, which shall be paid weekly during the term of his voluntary enlistment.

"Voted that a Committee of Three be appointed to draw all orders from the Treasury for the support of the families of those persons who may enlist in service of their country, in the present troubles, according to the foregoing resolutions. Voted, that Samuel M. Smith, William Lee and William W. Beers, be, and they are hereby appointed said committee. On motion adjourned.

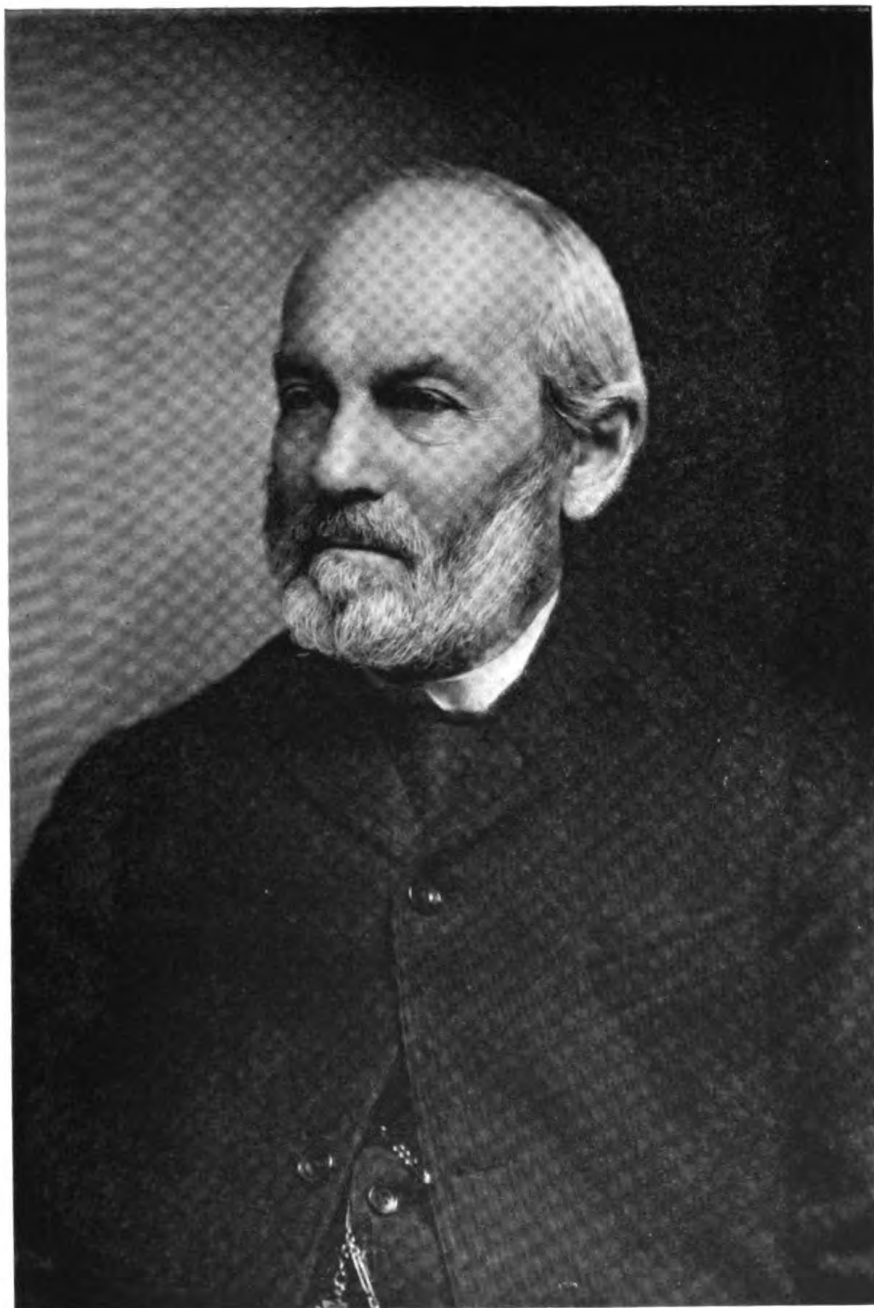
Attest, Henry Smith, 2nd, Clerk pro tem."

Upon the request of many of the electors of the town a special town meeting was called to be held August 9th, 1862, to take into consideration the propriety of paying a Town Bounty to all persons who may enlist before the 20th day of the present August, under President Lincoln's last call for three hundred thousand men, and to do other business necessary and legal. At this special Town Meeting held August 9th, 1862, the following resolution was adopted:

"*Resolved*, That the Town of Ridgefield authorize the Selectmen of said town to pay each volunteer who has enlisted under the present calls or who shall enlist under said calls, the sum of two hundred dollars as bounty for the support of their families, if they have any; if single, to be paid to the order of the volunteer, to be drawn by each volunteer, in monthly installments of twenty-five dollars, with the understanding that each enlistment thus made, shall go to relieve the good old Town of Ridgefield from a draft: Provided that the number is enlisted by the 15th of this present August; and that after the requisite number of men to prevent draft is raised, the bounty shall not be paid.

Voted, That the Selectmen pay the same from the Treasury, or if the amount shall not be in the hands of the Treasurer, the Selectmen shall be authorized to borrow the same.

Voted, That whenever a volunteer shall present to the Selectmen a certificate of his having been accepted and sworn into the service of the United States in some one of



Hiram K. Scott

the Connecticut regiments, they shall draw orders on the Treasurer for the payment of the bounty just voted. On motion, adjourned.

Attest, L. H. Bailey, Town Clerk."

Upon a petition of Jesse L. Benedict and other electors, a special town meeting was called to be held Saturday, September 6th, 1862, at two o'clock in the afternoon for the purpose of making arrangements for filling the quota of soldiers for the town of Ridgefield, and by giving the same bounty to those who volunteer as has been given to those already volunteered; or in case a draft shall be made, to vote a bounty to those who may be drafted. At this meeting Ebenezer Hawley was appointed moderator.

A special town meeting was held September 13th, 1862, at which it was voted to authorize the Town Treasurer to borrow on the credit of the town \$15,400.00 for the purpose of paying bounties to volunteers, as voted at the Town Meetings of August 9th and September 6th. The action of the Selectmen in borrowing money to pay the first installment of town bounties was legalized and ratified.

A special Town Meeting of the Electors was held February 7th, 1863, and the following resolution was adopted:

"*Resolved*, That a Committee of Seven be appointed (the Selectmen and Town Treasurer to be a part of said committee) to equalize the payment of the war debt of the Town of Ridgefield, and report at an adjourned meeting the best way to liquidate the same.

"*Voted*, That Messrs. Lewis H. Bailey, Hiram K. Scott, and George Keeler, Esqs., be that Committee.

"The meeting was adjourned to Saturday the 28th inst."

At this adjourned meeting, the town voted a bond issue of sixteen thousand dollars, in sums not less than fifty dollars nor greater than five hundred dollars, and all to bear date the first day of July, 1863, made payable to order of bearer at the option of the purchaser, with interest at the rate of six percent. The bonds specified the

amount of interest, when and where payable, and were signed by the first Selectman, countersigned by the Town Treasurer, and registered upon the records by the town clerk, and "when so executed, signed, counter-signed, registered and delivered shall be valid and of obligatory effect upon said town." These bonds were issued under and by authority of an act of the General Assembly of this State, passed at its December session, 1862, entitled "An Act to Authorize Towns, Cities and Boroughs to issue Bonds or other Obligations for War Purposes."

On March 7th, 1863, another special Town Meeting was held and it was voted to reconsider all that related to the date of the bonds, and the time when interest and the several payments should be made. It was voted that the bonds "all bear date of April 1st, 1863."

At a special Town Meeting held July 1st, 1863, the following resolution was passed:

"*Resolved*, That the Treasurer of the Town of Ridgefield shall pay to the proper officers appointed to receive the same, the sum of three hundred dollars for each person who shall be drafted in accordance with the Act entitled 'An Act for enrolling and calling out the National Forces,' and for other purposes.

"The meeting then adjourned.

"Henry Smith, 2nd, *Town Clerk*."

Another special Town Meeting was held August 7th, 1863, and the following resolution was adopted:

"*Resolved*, That the Town Treasurer be, and he hereby is authorized and directed to pay out of the Town Treasury the sum of three hundred dollars to each person who may be drafted, accepted, and mustered into the United States Service, under the late call for three hundred thousand men by the President of the United States, for three years, or during the war; or to the drafted man who shall furnish an able-bodied substitute, who shall be accepted and mustered into the United States service."

"*Voted*, That the Selectmen and Town Treasurer be, and they hereby are authorized and instructed to borrow, upon the credit of the town, a sum of money sufficient to



WAR BOND ISSUED BY THE TOWN OF RIDGEFIELD DURING THE CIVIL WAR.

pay the said three hundred dollars to each of said persons who may comply with the above vote.

"The meeting then adjourned.

"Henry Smith, 2nd, Town Clerk."

On October 20th, 1863, at a Special Town Meeting among other matters acted upon favorably, was the appointment of Ebenezer Hawley and Ebenezer Jones as a "Committee to attend at Bridgeport on Wednesday or Thursday of the present week and pay to all such persons as have been drafted and accepted, or who have or may furnish a substitute, a sum of money not exceeding three hundred dollars, in accordance with the vote passed this day: attest Albert N. Thomas, Town Clerk."

Other special Town Meetings were held for the purpose of taking action to encourage men to volunteer and thus fill the quota of the town. At a meeting held August 6th, 1864, Hiram K. Scott, Lewis H. Bailey and John D. Hurlbutt were appointed a committee to procure volunteers and substitutes.

On February 18th, 1865, a special Town Meeting was called. The notice is signed by William Lee, Timothy Jones, William W. Beers, Samuel S. St. John and George Boughton, Selectmen (the town having increased the number of the board of selectmen from three to five.) At this meeting Timothy Jones and John D. Hurlbutt, recruiting agents, reported the difficulties encountered in getting substitutes. The price of substitutes advanced from six hundred and thirty dollars to seven hundred and seventy-five dollars, "and good men were scarce to find and difficult to obtain." Seth J. Benedict, then living in Bridgeport, made a contract with the recruiting agents to furnish the requisite number at six hundred and thirty dollars a man. Upon hearing the report of the recruiting agents, they were released and discharged from further duties.

In all, there were fourteen or more special Town Meetings held in Ridgefield during the War of the Rebellion.

Ridgefield was well represented in the Seventeenth Regiment, Company C and Company G having many soldiers from our town upon their rosters. The Seventeenth was commanded by Colonel William H. Noble, of Bridgeport.

- Every town in the County was represented in this regiment. The regiment was mustered into service August 28th, 1862, and left for the front by rail September 23rd. Relatives and friends went to Bridgeport to their camp at Seaside Park on the day of their departure to bid them a last farewell.

The regiment has a fine record for bravery in action. May 2nd, 1863, at Chancellorsville, the regiment was under fire for the first time. It lost in this battle, killed, wounded and missing, one hundred and twenty men. Colonel Noble was severely wounded in this engagement. The next fight was at Gettysburg, July 1st, 2nd and 3rd, 1863. The Seventeenth reached the battle field in the fiercest part of the first day's fight. It occupied a position on the extreme right. Two of its companies of sharp-shooters were sent to the outmost flank. At Oak Hill (Barlow's Knoll) it was under severe fire and its loss was heavy. The Seventeenth held a position for two days on Cemetery Hill, where it was fiercely assailed; but the enemy was unable to break through its ranks. The entire number of killed, wounded and missing from the Seventeenth in the Battle of Gettysburg was one hundred and ninety-eight.

In August, 1863, the regiment was sent to the Southern Department. Other engagements besides Chancellorsville and Gettysburg were Morris Island and Fort Wagner, August, 1863; Walaka and Saunders, Florida, May 9th, 1864; and Dunn's Lake, Florida, February 5th, 1865.

The regiment was mustered out at Hilton Head, July 19th, 1865.

The Twenty-third Regiment was also well represented by soldiers from Ridgefield. Major David H. Miller of Georgetown was one of the commanding officers. It was

mustered into service at Camp Terry, New Haven, Conn., 1862.

It went by boat to New Orleans and saw much active service in that vicinity. The principal engagements were La Fourche Crossing, Brashear City and Bayou Boeuf, all in Louisiana. In June, 1863, Colonel Holmes was killed in action and Lieutenant Colonel Worden being sick, the command devolved upon Major Miller. The battles mentioned above were fought on June 20th-21st, June 23rd and June 24th respectively, only a few days after Major Miller assumed command of the regiment.

The regiment returned home and was mustered out at New Haven, September 1st, 1863.

Among other Connecticut regiments in which many men from Ridgefield served, were the 1st Heavy Artillery, 2nd Heavy Artillery, 5th, 7th, 8th, 10th, 11th, 12th, and 13th Infantry.

A very interesting day to the soldiers of the 11th Regiment was the occasion when President Abraham Lincoln visited their encampment at City Point. Jacob Legrand Dauchy of Ridgefield, a member of this Regiment, often related the incident. The President and his party arrived by steamboat and immediately after landing, as they walked up to the camp, President Lincoln spied an axe sticking in a block. The temptation was too great, and sauntering over to the woodpile, he picked up the axe and began chopping a log, the soldiers in great excitement gathering around, each one eager to get one of the chips. Mr. Dauchy secured a chip and brought it home to Ridgefield. Mr. Dauchy described the President chopping away, swinging the axe with his long arms, his high hat and long black frock coat adding to the charm of the scene. This may have been the last time President Lincoln used an axe.

A number of names of soldiers who made their homes in Ridgefield for many years, but enlisted elsewhere, have

been placed upon the monument. These names are included in the following list: (Regiments given without the name of the state being designated are from Connecticut.)

Austin, David	Corporal, 17th Regt., Co. G, Enlisted Aug. 11, 1862. Disch. July 10, 1865. Captured Feb. 5, 1865, Dunn's Lake, Fla.
Austin, Hiram	Corporal, 17th Regt., Co. G, Enlisted Aug. 11, 1862, Disch. disability Aug. 19, 1863.
Austin, Jacob	Corporal, 17th Regt., Co. G, Enlisted Aug. 11, 1862. Disch. July 19, 1865. Wounded and Captured July 1, 1863 at Gettysburg.
Avent, William	17th Regt., Co. G, Enlisted Aug. 15, 1862. Died in Service, March 30, 1863.
Avery, W. Charles	17th Regt., Co. G, Enlisted Aug. 11, 1862. Disch., disability, Jan. 19, 1863.
Avery, Tredwell	1st Heavy Artillery, Co. E, Enlisted Jan. 1, 1864, Disch. Sept. 25, 1865.
Avery, William	29th Regt., (Colored) Co. K, Enlisted Jan. 6, 1864. Disch. Oct. 25, 1865. Wounded Petersburg, Va.
Bahring, Ernest	7th Regt., Co. K, Enlisted Nov. 7, 1863. Missing in action June 13, 1864. Proctor's Creek, Va. Probably killed.
Banker, George W.	1st Regt., Co. E, Mustered in Apr. 19, 1861. Wooster Guards. Disch. July 31, 1861.

- Banks, Horace O. 17th Regt., Co. E, Enlisted from Weston Dec. 30, 1863. Disch. July 19, 1865.
- Barker, William E. 23rd Regt., Co. K, Enlisted Sept. 5, 1862. Disch. Aug. 31, 1863.
- Bates, Francis H. Corporal, 12th Regt., Co. K, Enlisted Nov. 4, 1861. Transferred Co. E, 12th Battalion. Disch. Aug. 12, 1865.
- Baxter, Samuel B. 11th Regt., Co. B, Enlisted Dec. 16, 1863. Died Oct. 25, 1864.
- Beers, Charles 1st Regt., Heavy Artillery, Co. B, Enlisted Jan. 5, 1864. Disch. Sept. 25, 1865.
- Benedict, Chas. H. 17th Regt., Co. C, Enlisted July 28, 1862. Disch. disability Feb. 27, 1863. Also 1st Conn. Cavalry, Co. C, enlisted Dec. 24, 1863. Disch. July 3, 1865.
- Benjamin, Cyrus M. 9th Regt., Co. K, Enlisted Apr. 1, 1862. Re-enlisted July 10, 1862, 36th Mass. Infantry for three years. Disch. disability, Mar. 20, 1863, at Alexandria, Va.
- Bennett, Alfred 17th Regt., Co. C, Enlisted July 26, 1862. Disch. Jan. 17, 1863.
- Bentley, Benjamin 7th Regt., Co. I, Enlisted Oct. 24, 1863. Disch. June 30, 1865. Transferred to U. S. Navy. Served on U. S. S. Eutaw.
- Betts, Charles H. Served in Confederate Army. Died Dec. 12, 1884, aged 59. Buried Titicus Cemetery.
- Betts, William H. 5th Regt., Co. G, Enlisted Mar. 17, 1862. Disch. Oct. 17, 1863.

	Captured Aug. 9, 1862, at Cedar Mountain, Va.
Boyle, Richard	6th Regt., Co. B, Enlisted Oct. 20, 1863.
Bradley, Daniel B.	23rd Regt., Co. G, Enlisted Sept. 7, 1862. Died at Donaldson, Louisiana, July 7, 1863.
Brinkerhoff, Benj. F.	Sergt., 17th Regt., Co. G, Enlisted Aug. 13, 1862. Disch. July 19, 1865.
Brothwell, William E.	23rd Regt., Co. E, Enlisted Aug. 29, 1862. Disch. Aug. 31, 1863.
Brower, George W.	6th Regt., Co. B, N. Y. Vols.
Brown, Franklin	17th Regt., Co. G, Enlisted Aug. 13, 1862. Disch. Feb. 24, 1863.
Brown, James P.	15th Regt., Co. B, Enlisted Aug. 6, 1862. Disch. June 27, 1865.
Brown, Jefferson	17th Regt., Co. G, Enlisted Aug. 12, 1862. Disch. Oct. 20, 1863.
Brown, Nehemiah	17th Regt., Co. G, Enlisted Aug. 12, 1862. Disch. disability Dec. 18, 1862. Enlisted Jan. 5, 1864, 1st Regt. Heavy Artillery, Co. E, Disch. Sept. 25, 1865.
Brown, Charles F.	2nd Heavy Artillery, Co. D, Enlisted Jan. 4, 1864. Disch. June 15, 1865.
Burke, Michael	1st Heavy Artillery, Co. H, Enlisted Dec. 22, 1864. Disch. Sept. 25, 1865.
Burns, John	6th Regt., Co. B, Enlisted Oct. 30, 1863.
Burr, Daniel Dibble	17th Regt., Co. G, Mustered in Aug. 13, 1862. Disch. July 19, 1865.

- Burt, Caleb 4th Regt., Heavy Artillery, Co. F, N. Y. Vols. Enlisted Feb. 29, 1864. Disch. Mar. 14, 1865.
- Burt, Charles I. 10th Regt., Co. G, Enlisted Feb. 26, 1862. Died at David's Island, Sept. 11, 1864.
- Burt, Captain Francis E. Capt. 10th Regt., Co. B, Enlisted Oct. 1, 1861. Resigned Aug. 16, 1865.
- Burt, Stephen 23rd Regt., Co. G, Mustered in Sept. 7, 1862, Disch. Aug. 31, 1863.
- Canfield, Sylvester C. 15th Regt., Co. B, Enlisted Aug. 6, 1862. Disch. May 30, 1865. Wounded and Captured May 8, 1865, Kinston, N. C.
- Carney, Lawrence 17th Regt., Co. G, Mustered in Aug. 14, 1862. Killed at the Battle of Gettysburg, July 1, 1863.
- Casey, William E. 13th Regt., Co. B, Inf., Enlisted Jan. 31, 1862. Pro. Corp. Aug. 14, 1863. Disch. Jan. 6, 1865.
- Coe, Henry 5th Regt., Co. G, Enlisted July 13, 1861. Disch. July 22, 1864.
- Coe, Samuel A. 6th Heavy Artillery, Co. G, N. Y. Vols., Enlisted at Brewster, N. Y. Lost arm at Siege of Petersburg. Disch. Feb. 23, 1865.
- Compton, Joseph 2nd Heavy Artillery, Co. B, Enlisted Jan. 4, 1864. Disch. disability, Mar. 9, 1865.
- Cook, John 2nd Regt., Heavy Artillery, Co. F, Enlisted Aug. 19, 1864.
- Costello, Michael 1st Conn. Heavy Artillery, Co. B, Enlisted Sept. 1, 1864. Disch. June 29, 1865.

- Couch, Nathan 1st Regt., Wooster Guards, Co. E, Mustered in Apr. 19, 1861. Disch. July 31, 1861.
- Creedan, William 17th Regt., Co. G, Mustered in Aug. 13, 1862. Disch. July 19, 1865.
- Dann, Levi 23rd Regt., Co. E, Mustered in Sept. 5, 1862. Disch. Aug. 31, 1863.
- Dauchy, Jacob Legrand Musician-Fifer, 11th Regt., Co. A, Mustered in Oct. 24, 1861. Disch. Sept. 13, 1865.
- Davis, Albert N. 1st Regt. Heavy Artillery, Enlisted Dec. 7, 1863. Died Nov. 30, 1864, at army hospital, Washington, D. C.
- Davis, George 6th Regt., Co. G, Enlisted Oct. 24, 1863. Disch. Aug. 21, 1865.
- Davis, Hiram 25th Regt., N. Y. Cavalry, Co. H, Enlisted Oct. 11, 1864. Disch. June 27, 1865. With Gen. Sheridan in Shenandoah Valley.
- Davis, James W. 12th Regt., Co. E, Corporal Co. E, 12th Battalion at age of 16. Served under Gen. B. F. Butler with Admiral Farragut. Was at the surrender of New Orleans, Battles of Georgia Landing, Pattersonville. Mustered in Dec. 27, 1861. Re-enlisted Jan. 1, 1864; with Sheridan at the Battle of Winchester and through the Shenandoah Valley.
- Davis, Madison 12th Regt., Co. B, also Co. B, 12th Battalion, Enlisted from Wilton, Apr. 7, 1864. Disch. Aug. 12,

1865. Captured at Cedar Creek, Va., Oct. 19, 1864. Was a prisoner for months at Andersonville.
- Dayton, Joseph 1st Artillery, Co. B, Enlisted Dec. 4, 1861. Disch. Sept. 25, 1865.
- Deforest, Sylvester 11th Regt., Co. A, Mustered in Oct. 24, 1861. Disch. Dec. 20, 1862.
- Degeneres, Charles 6th Regt., Co. D, Mustered in Oct. 22, 1863.
- Devins, George 8th Regt., Co. H, Enlisted Sept. 4, 1861. Disch. Dec. 12, 1865.
- Dickens, Charles H. Enlisted Aug. 11, 1862. Disch. disability Jan. 14, 1863.
- Dove, Daniel G. Corp., 17th Regt., Co. G, Mustered in Aug. 13, 1862. Disch. July 19, 1865. Capt. May 2, 1863, Chancellorsville.
- Dykeman, Nirum 17th Regt., Co. G, Mustered in Aug. 11, 1862. Disch. Nov. 17, 1862.
- Edmonds, Elias Hull 17th Regt., Co. G, Enlisted Aug. 11, 1862. Disch. Feb. 27, 1863.
- Edmond, Ezra Lee Killed in action; buried Titicus Cemetery.
- Edmonds, John D. 20th Regt., N. Y. Vols., Co. E, Enlisted Apr. 23, 1861. Disch. Aug. 2, 1861. Died July 23, 1865, aged 33.
- Enright, James 23rd Regt., Co. G, Mustered in Sept. 7, 1862. Disch. Aug. 31, 1863.
- Farvour, Robert 17th Regt., Co. C, Enlisted Aug. 12, 1862. Captured May, 1863, Chancellorsville, Va.

- Finch, Nelson A. Corp., 17th Regt., Co. G, Enlisted Aug. 14, 1862. Disch. July 19, 1865.
- Foote, Gaius St. John 17th Regt., Co. H, Mustered in Aug. 16, 1862. Died Nov. 17, 1863.
- Fox, Aaron Corp., 8th Regt., Co. H, Enlisted Sept. 14, 1861. Disch. Sept. 28, 1864.
- Fox, Casper 7th Regt., Co. I, Enlisted Sept 9, 1864. Disch. July 20, 1865.
- Fry, John G. 17th Regt., Co. G, Mustered in Aug. 13, 1862. Died Jan. 18, 1863.
- Gage, Edwin B. 11th Regt., Co. A, Enlisted Oct. 1, 1861. Transferred to Co. K, Dec. 27, 1861. Disch. Feb. 26, 1862.
- Gage, Rhomanza 11th Regt., Co. A, Enlisted Sept. 10, 1861. Transferred to Co. K, Dec. 27, 1861.
- Gage, Selah 23rd Regt., Co. K, Enlisted Sept. 6, 1862. Died July 2, 1863.
- Gibbons, Edward 7th Regt., Co. I, Enlisted Oct. 24, 1863.
- Gilbert, Charles 23rd Regt., Co. G, Mustered in Oct. 31, 1862. Disch. Aug. 31, 1863.
- Gilbert, Charles F. 12th Regt., Co. E, Mustered in Nov. 30, 1861. Disch. July 3, 1865. Served in Capture of New Orleans, Battles of Georgia Landing, La., Pattersonville, La., Biskand, La., Siege of Port Hudson, Winchester, Va., Fishers Hill, Va., and Cedar Creek, Va.

- Gilbert, Edwin B. Corp., 5th Regt., Co. E, Enlisted June 22, 1861. Disch. July 19, 1865. Captured Aug. 9, 1862, at Cedar Mountain, Va.
- Gilbert, George Corp., 5th Regt., Co. E, Enlisted June 22, 1861. Wounded July 20, 1864, at Peach Tree Creek, Ga. Died Aug. 2, 1864.
- Gilbert, John
(Long John) 5th Regt., Co. A, Enlisted July 9, 1861. Disch. July 22, 1864. Captured May 25, 1862, Winchester, Va.
- Gilbert, Smith 17th Regt., Co. G, Mustered in Aug. 14, 1862. Disch. Feb. 14, 1863.
- Gilbert, William record unobtained
- Godfrey, George F. 1st Sergt., 17th Regt., Co. G, Enlisted Aug. 13, 1862. Disch. July 19, 1865.
- Godfrey, Sylvester 8th Regt., Co. H, Enlisted Sept. 14, 1861. Wounded at Fredericksburg, Va., Dec. 11, 1862. Captured at Fort Darling, Va., May 16, 1864. Died at Andersonville, Prison, Sept. 18, 1864.
- Grannis, John H. 17th Regt., Co. C, Mustered in July 26, 1862.
- Gray, George Corp., 17th Regt., Co. G, Enlisted Aug. 15, 1862. Disch. March 28, 1863.
- Gregory, David 17th Regt., Co. G, Enlisted Aug. 13, 1862. Disch. Dec. 10, 1862.
- Grumman, Frederick A. 5th Regt., Co. D, Enlisted March 3, 1864. Died Sept. 7, 1864.
- Hall, Ezra S. 17th Regt., Co. C, Enlisted Aug. 12, 1862. Disch. Jan. 28, 1863.

- Harrington, John H. 17th Regt., Co. G, Enlisted Aug. 11, 1862. Disch. July 19, 1865. Wounded at Gettysburg, July 1, 1863.
- Hawkins, Joseph 14th Regt., Co. A, N. Y. Vols. Shot by cannon at Norwalk (while home on furlough) during a celebration. Buried at Titicus Cemetery.
- Hendricks, David 8th Regt., Co. H, Conn. Vols., Mustered in Sept. 23, 1861. Buried in Florida Cemetery.
- Holmes, John W. Musician, 11th Regt., Co. D, Enlisted Oct. 20, 1861, 17th Regt., Co. C, Enlisted July 26, 1862. Wounded and captured at Chancellorsville, May 2, 1863. Disch. June 8, 1864.
- Howe, Benjamin F. 69th Regt., N. Y. Infantry, Co. C, Enlisted Oct. 7, 1863, at Tammany Hall, New York City. Disch. at Alexandria, Va., May 18, 1865. Came to Ridgefield June 7, 1870.
- Hoyt, John W. 17th Regt., Co. G, Enlisted Aug. 12, 1862. Died June 28, 1862.
- Hoyt, Warren 17th Regt., Co. A, Enlisted Aug. 9, 1862. Disch. July 9, 1865. Wounded at Chancellorsville, May 2, 1863.
- Hubbell, Franklin 8th Regt., Co. H, Mustered in Sept. 23, 1861. Disch. Dec. 22, 1864.
- Hull, Silas 17th Regt., Co. G, Mustered in Aug. 13, 1862. Disch. March 25, 1863.

- Jarvis, John J. 17th Regt., Co. G, Mustered in Aug. 11, 1862. Disch. July 19, 1865. Captured at Gettysburg, July 2, 1863.
- Jemmison, William 31st Regt., Co. B (Colored), Enlisted Jan. 5, 1864. Died Sept. 20, 1864.
- Jennings, Charles E. 17th Regt., Co. G, Enlisted Aug. 13, 1862. Disch. July 1, 1865.
- Jennings, William H. 17th Regt., Co. G, Enlisted Aug. 13, 1862. Disch. disability, March 9, 1863.
- John, Frederick 7th Regt., Co. A, Enlisted Oct. 24, 1863. Captured May 16, 1864, at Drury's Bluff. Died Oct. 3, 1864, at Andersonville Prison.
- Johnson, Peter Enlisted Sept., 1862, Co. G, 2nd N. Y. Cavalry. Disch. June, 1865. Buried in Titicus Cemetery.
- Johnson, Samuel J. 31st Regt. (Colored), Co. B, Enlisted Jan. 5, 1864. Disch. May 16, 1865.
- Johnson, William L. 31st Regt. (Colored), Co. B, Enlisted Dec. 22, 1863. Disch. Nov. 7, 1865.
- Jones, William M. 20th N. Y. Regt., Co. C, Enlisted April 23, 1861, at Kingston, N. Y. Disch. Aug. 2, 1861.
- Judd, Horace Q. 17th Regt., Co. G, Mustered in Aug. 13, 1862. Disch. Aug. 12, 1865. Captured July 1, 1863, at Gettysburg. Escaped July 10, 1863.
- Juergens, Theodore 6th Regt., Co. C, Mustered in Oct. 11, 1863. Disch. Aug. 11, 1865.

Keeler, Edgar	44th Regt., Co. C, N. Y. Vols., Enlisted Aug. 26, 1861. Disch. Nov. 5, 1862.
Keeler, Eli J.	17th Regt., Co. G, Enlisted Aug. 11, 1862. Disch. July 19, 1865.
Keeler, Henry	Corporal, 14th Regt., Co. C, Enlisted from Waterbury, Aug. 2, 1862. Killed at the Battle of Antietam Sept. 17, 1862. Buried in Titicus Cemetery.
Keeler, Henry W.	Sergt., 17th Regt., Co. D, Enlisted Aug. 7, 1862. Disch. June 1, 1865. Wounded July 1, 1863, at Gettysburg (three times wounded in the foot).
Keeler, Ira	10th Regt., Co. G, Enlisted Oct. 29, 1861. Disch. Sept. 19, 1862.
Keeler, Oscar H.	5th Regt., Co. A, Enlisted June 21, 1861. Disch. July 22, 1864. Wounded below right knee at Chancellorsville, Va., May 3, 1863. Also wounded at 1st and 2nd Battles of Winchester, 2nd Battle of Bull Run, Antietam, Lookout Mountain and Missionary Ridge.
Keeler, Rufus D.	5th Regt., Co. K, Enlisted Mar. 17, 1862. Disch. Dec. 19, 1862.
Keeler, Smith	10th Regt., Co. G, Enlisted Oct. 2, 1861. Disch. disability Dec. 10, 1862. Wounded on scouting expedition. Lost left arm.
Klinefelter, Jeremiah	23rd Regt., Co. G, Mustered in July 22, 1861. Disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

- Knapp, Henry 1st Regt., Heavy Artillery, Co. D, Enlisted Jan. 4, 1864. Disch. Sept. 25, 1865.
- Knapp, Lewis 1st Regt., heavy artillery, Co. D, enlisted Jan. 4, 1864, Disch. Sept. 25, 1865.
- Lannon, Patrick 11th Regt., Co. A, Enlisted Oct. 5, 1861. Disch. Oct. 24, 1864.
- Leary, John 1st Regt. Cavalry, Conn. Vols., Co. G, Enlisted Sept. 9, 1863. Disch. Aug. 2, 1865.
- Lee, Aaron W. Sergt., 17th Regt., Co. G, Mustered in Aug. 11, 1862. Disch. July 19, 1865. Wounded July 1, 1863, at Gettysburg.
- Les, Joit 6th Regt., Co. E, Mustered in Oct. 22, 1863. Disch. Oct. 28, 1865. Wounded May 10, 1864, at Chester Station, Va.
- Lloyd, Michael 2nd Regt., Heavy Artillery, Co. F, Enlisted Jan. 5, 1864. Disch. Aug. 18, 1865.
- Lockwood, Andrew 17th Regt., Co. G, Enlisted Aug. 13, 1862. Disch. July 19, 1865. Captured May 2, 1863, at Chancellorsville, Va.
- Lockwood, William H. Sergt., 5th Regt., Co. A, Enlisted June 21, 1861. Disch. July 19, 1865.
- Loder, William C. Corp., 161st Regt., N. Y. Infantry, Co. A, Enlisted Aug. 23, 1862. Mustered out Aug. 1, 1865.
- Lounsbury, Mrs. Nathan Nurse at Army Square Hospital, (Delia A.) Washington, 1862, for several weeks.

- Lounsbury, Phineas C. Corp., 17th Regt., Co. C, Mustered in Aug. 11, 1862. Disch. Dec. 22, 1862.
- McBride, John 1st Regt., Co. G, Enlisted Sept. 8, 1864.
- McConnell, John 17th Regt., Co. G, Enlisted Aug. 11, 1862. Disch. July 19, 1865. Captured July 1, 1863, at Gettysburg.
- Maher, Dennis 6th Regt., Co. B, Enlisted Oct. 21, 1863. Disch. Aug. 21, 1865.
- Main, James C. Sergt., 17th Regt., Co. G, Enlisted Aug. 11, 1862. Disch. July 19, 1865. Second Lieutenant June 29, 1865.
- Mead, Benjamin L. Corp., 13th Regt., Co. B, Enlisted Jan. 27, 1862. Disch. Nov. 14, 1865.
- Mead, Jeremiah O. Corp., 17th Regt., Co. G, Enlisted Aug. 13, 1862. Disch. July 19, 1865.
- Mead, Rufus N. 17th Regt., Co. G, Enlisted Aug. 11, 1862. Disch. Nov. 29, 1862.
- Mead, Smith 5th Regt., Co. A, Enlisted July 9, 1861. Disch. Mar. 14, 1863. Wounded Aug. 9, 1862, at Cedar Mountain, Va.
- Merritt, William M. 7th Regt., Co. D, Enlisted Sept. 1, 1862. Disch. June 14, 1865. Wounded May 2, 1863, at Battle of Chancellorsville. Captured at Dunn's Lake, Fla., on Feb. 5, 1865.
- Miller, Henry 2nd Regt., Conn. Heavy Artillery, Co. A, Enlisted Jan. 5, 1864. Disch. Aug. 18, 1865.



GROVE LAWN,
Residence of Governor Phineas C. Lounsbury.

- Mills, Solomon 67th Regt., N. Y. Inf. Trans., Co. C, Enlisted May 14, 1864. Re-enlisted Sept. 1, 1864, 65th Regt., N. Y. Infantry. Disch. July 7, 1865.
- Moffatt, Edward 7th Regt., Co. D, Enlisted Aug. 24, 1861. Disch. Sept. 12, 1864.
- Monroe, Alsop L. 17th Regt., Co. G, Enlisted Aug. 19, 1862. Disch. disability Dec. 29, 1862.
- Monroe, William 17th Regt., Co. G, Enlisted Aug. 19, 1864. Disch. July 19, 1865.
- Murphy, James 2nd 1st Heavy Artillery, Co. , Enlisted Dec. 22, 1864.
- Nelson, Joseph 6th Regt., Co. I, Enlisted Oct. 22, 1863. Admitted to General Hospital at Hilton Head, S. C., Apr. 27, 1864.
- Nickerson, Benjamin V. 17th Regt., Co. G, Enlisted Aug. 13, 1862. Disch. disability April 16, 1863.
- Northrop, John 7th Regt., Co. D, Enlisted Oct. 30, 1863. Disch. Aug. 18, 1864.
- Northrop, David 3rd 17th Regt., Co. G, Enlisted Aug. 13, 1862. Disch. July 19, 1865. Captured July 1, 1863, at Gettysburg.
- Northrop, John J. Record unobtained. Buried in Titicus Cemetery.
- Oakley, Miles 17th Regt., Co. G, Enlisted Jan. 5, 1864. Disch. July 10, 1864. Captured Feb. 5, 1865, at Dunn's Lake, Fla.
- Odell, James B. 17th Regt., Co. H., N. Y. Vols.
- Olmstead, Marcus T. 17th Regt., Co. I, Enlisted Jan., 1865. Disch. July 19, 1865.

- Osborn, Peter M. Enlisted 1861, Co. F, 95th N. Y. Infantry Vols. 1863, Co. A, N. Y. Cavalry, Vols.
- Ostman, Frank 7th Regt., Co. K, Mustered in Oct. 24, 1863. Disch. May 2, 1865. Transferred U. S. Navy, April 28, 1864. Served on U. S. S. Delaware and Onandaga.
- Payne, Thomas Corp., 11th Regt., Co. A, Enlisted Oct. 24, 1861. Died April 27, 1862.
- Phelan, Samuel S. 1st Artillery, Co. G, Enlisted Dec. 9, 1863. Disch. disability April 7, 1865. Wounded July 24, 1864, at Petersburg.
- Pickett, Edwin D. 17th Regt., Co. G, Enlisted on Aug. 9, 1862. Killed at the Battle of Gettysburg, July 1, 1863. Body brought home and buried in Titicus Cemetery.
- Platt, Alfred 1st Artillery, Co. B, Enlisted Jan. 22, 1862. Disch. Sept. 25, 1865.
- Platt, Charles 10th Regt., Co. G, Mustered in Dec. 11, 1863. Disch. Aug. 25, 1865.
- Platt, George 10th Regt., Co. G, Mustered in Dec. 11, 1863. Disch. Aug. 25, 1865.
- Prichard, William 6th Regt., Co. E, Mustered in Oct. 22, 1863. Disch. Aug. 16, 1865. Wounded May 10, 1864, at Chester Station, Va. Wounded Aug. 16, 1864, at Deep Bottom, Va.
- Rasco, Charles B. 17th Regt., Co. G, Mustered in Aug. 11, 1862. Disch. Dec. 10, 1862.

- Rasco, James H. 5th Regt., Co. A, Mustered in July 22, 1861. Disch. Nov. 15, 1862. Wounded Aug. 9, 1862, at Cedar Mountain, Va.
- Raymond, Amos 17th Regt., Co. G, Mustered in July 19, 1862. Disch. July 19, 1865. Wounded May 2, 1863, at Chancellorsville.
- Reed, Edwin R. 1st Regt. Heavy Artillery, Co. B, Enlisted Sept. 8, 1863. Disch. Sept. 25, 1865.
- Regan, Patrick 6th Regt., Co. E, Enlisted Oct. 22, 1863.
- Rhan, Charles A. 17th Regt., Co. G, Mustered in Aug. 12, 1862. Disch. July 10, 1865. Wounded Aug. 1863, at Morris Island, S. C. Captured May 19, 1864, at Welaka, Fla.
- Rich, Alfred Band, 5th Regt., Enlisted June 21, 1861. Disch. Aug. 16, 1862. Sergt., 15th Regt., Co. G, re-enlisted. Disch. July 19, 1865.
- Rich, Jared 17th Regt., Co. G, Mustered in Sept 2, 1862. Disch. Dec. 10, 1862.
- Roche, James T. Sickles' Brigade, 1st Regt., N. Y. Vols. 2nd Artillery, Co. I, Transferred to Co. E, Enlisted Jan. 29, 1864. Disch. Aug. 18, 1865.
- Rowley, John Mustered in Nov. 2, 1863.
- Ruff, Anthony 6th Regt., Co. C, Mustered in Oct. 22, 1863. Disch. Aug. 21, 1865. Wounded Aug. 16, 1864, at Deep Run, Va.
- Ruggles, Elbert Sergt., 13th Regt., Co. B, Mustered in Feb. 18, 1862. Disch.

- Apr. 25, 1864. Wounded April 19, 1864, at Winchester, Va.
- Ruggles, Sidney B. Sergt., 13th Regt., Co. B, Enlisted Feb. 5, 1862. Disch. April 25, 1865.
- Scofield, Orrin K. 7th Regt., Co. D, Mustered in Sept 5, 1861. Disch. July 20, 1865. Wounded Oct. 22, 1862, at Potaligo, S. C.
- Scot, John 29th Regt. (Colored), Co. E, Enlisted Jan. 5, 1864. Died Aug. 19, 1865.
- Searles, Andrew J. 4th Heavy Artillery, Co. I, Enlisted Jan. 25, 1864, at Tarrytown, N. Y. Disch. Sept. 26, 1865. At Battle of Gettysburg.
- Selleck, Ebenezer 1st Artillery, Co. I, Mustered in Jan. 5, 1864. Disch. Sept. 25, 1865.
- Seymour, Francis E. 17th Regt., Co. G, Mustered in Aug. 15, 1862. Died April 26, 1863.
- Sherwood, Daniel 155th Infantry, Co. A, N. Y. Vols., Enlisted Mar. 3, 1864. Disch. July 15, 1865.
- Smith, Allen 17th Regt., Co. G, Mustered in Aug. 13, 1862. Disch. July 19, 1865.
- Smith, Andrew V. S. 8th Regt., Co. H, Mustered in Oct. 16, 1861. Disch. Jan. 20, 1864.
- Smith, Charles, Jr. 1st Lieutenant, 17th Regt., Co. G, Enlisted Aug. 11, 1862. Disch. July 19, 1865.
- Smith, David Edson Corp., 23rd Regt., Co. E, Mustered in Sept. 5, 1862. Disch. Aug. 31, 1863.

- Smith, Frederick L. Bandsman, General Sickles' Brigade, 1st Regt., N. Y. Vols.
- Smith, Sherman H. Musician, 17th Regt., Co. G, Mustered in Aug. 11, 1862. Disch. July 10, 1865. Captured Feb. 4, 1865, at St. Augustine, Fla.
- Smith, William H. 17th Regt., Co. G, Enlisted Aug. 15, 1862. Disch. disability Feb. 15, 1864.
- Stebbins, William 1st Regt., Heavy Artillery, Conn. Vols., Co. B.
- Stevens, George W. 17th Regt., Conn. Vols., Co. G, Enlisted Aug. 14, 1862. Disch. July 19, 1865.
- Stevens, Levi B. 1st Artillery, Conn. Vols., Co. E, Mustered in Dec. 21, 1863. Disch. Sept. 25, 1865.
- Sturges, Frederick L. Corp., 13th Regt., Co. B, Enlisted Jan. 30, 1862. Died Dec. 12, 1863.
- Thomas, John L. 8th Regt., Co. H, Mustered in Mar. 14, 1864. Disch. May 19, 1865. Wounded May 7, 1864, at Walthall Junction, Va.
- Ulmer, Charles A. 1st Regt. Cavalry, Conn. Vols., Co. L, Enlisted Jan. 5, 1864. Disch. Aug. 2, 1865. Captured May 5, 1864, at Craigs Church, Va.
- Van Scoy, John A. 13th Regt., Co. B, Mustered in Feb. 20, 1862. Disch. Nov. 27, 1864.
- Viely, John 6th Regt., Co. E, Mustered in Oct. 21, 1863.

- Walters, John M. 17th Regt., Co. C, Mustered in July 25, 1862. Disch. June 26, 1865.
- Ward, John 15th Regt., Co. H, Mustered in Aug. 25, 1864. Captured Mar. 8, 1865, at Kinston, N. C. Escaped Sept. 27, 1864, from Fort Totten. Probably killed by guerillas.
- Warren, Rufus 17th Regt., Co. C, Mustered in Aug. 11, 1862. Wounded July 1, 1863, at Gettysburg. Died July 16, 1863.
- Weed, William A. Unassigned recruit, 13th Regt., Mustered in Jan. 5, 1864. Died in service June 10, 1864.
- White, Edwin P. 17th Regt., Co. G, Mustered in Aug. 11, 1862. Disch. Aug. 10, 1865.
- Whitlock, Joseph S. 17th Regt., Co. C, Enlisted July 25, 1862. Wounded July 1, 1863, at Gettysburg. Died July 16, at Washington, D. C.
- Whitlock, Nephi 17th Regt., Co. C, Enlisted July 25, 1862. Wounded July 1, 1863, at Gettysburg. Disch. July 24, 1865.
- Williams, Hawley 8th Regt., Co. H, Enlisted Sept. 14, 1861. Disch. Dec. 12, 1865. Captured May 16, 1864, at Fort Darling, Va.
- Williams, Joseph 7th Regt., Co. H, Enlisted Oct. 23, 1863. Transferred to U. S. Navy Apr. 28, 1864. Served on Minnesota, Vandalia and Squando.
- Williams, Sydney Corp., 8th Regt., Co. H, Enlisted Sept. 14, 1861. Disch. Dec. 12, 1865.

Williams, Sylvester	17th Regt., Co. G, Enlisted Aug. 12, 1862. Disch. July 19, 1865. Wounded and captured May 2, 1863, at Chancellorsville.
Wilson, Peter	1st Heavy Artillery, Co. B, Enlisted Aug. 16, 1864.
Wood, George L.	17th Regt., Co. C, Enlisted July 22, 1862. Disch. July 19, 1865. Captured May 2, 1863, at Chancellorsville.

Only two soldiers who enlisted from Ridgefield in the Civil War are living, Reverend James W. Davis of Bridgeport, Past Commander of the Grand Army of the Republic, and Sylvester DeForest, now living in Chester, Connecticut. At the present writing, only two veterans of this war, Samuel A. Coe and Hiram Davis, live in the town. Benjamin F. Howe and Horace O. Banks, living elsewhere, are legal residents of Ridgefield.

For many years, a Grand Army Post flourished in Ridgefield; Edwin D. Pickett Post No. 64. As the number of veterans grew smaller and smaller, the few remaining joined the Post in Danbury.

CHAPTER XXIX

THE WORLD WAR

The Golden Rule, "Do unto others as you would have others do unto you," might well have been Ridgefield's call to arms for the great world war. One of Ridgefield's most historic spots, the old French camping ground of 1781, recalls how freely and bravely the soldiers of France came to our aid when our liberty was about to be throttled and our national life aborted. Therefore, from no one's lips could Pershing's words have fallen with better grace than from those of Ridgefield's boys: "Lafayette, we are here!"

The examples given by many of our soldiers in this great war are a rich gift to posterity. Many of them, called thousands of miles across the sea, fought and suffered, enduring hardships of firing line and trench, subjected to a constant intensive strain that heretofore had never been experienced to such a degree in any war.

Before the entry of the United States into the World War, the State of Connecticut* by act of Legislature empowered Governor Marcus H. Holcomb to take a census and inventory of men and materials available for use in the event of war. In accordance with the above act, First Selectman Orville W. Holmes nominated the Commissioners from Ridgefield. This was the first step taken in our town pertaining to the war. Upon the names of those selected for this work being received by Governor Holcomb, he issued, under date of February 12th, 1917,

*The total number of men mustered into the service from Connecticut the World War was 62,862. This includes officers and privates. The number of Connecticut soldiers killed was 655, and the total casualties were 6,265.

commissions to the following citizens: Samuel A. Coe, Charles F. Palmer, George L. Rockwell, Bradley W. Sanford, George A. Knox, Winthrop E. Rockwell, Norman Walker, Ray Mansfield, Henry H. Keeler, Fred E. White, Maurice W. Anderson, Howard S. Hibbart, George G. Knapp and Arthur J. Ferry. A census was taken of each male resident over eighteen years of age. The work was speedily accomplished, a little over one thousand names being enumerated.

Two citizens of Ridgefield were chosen on the Exemption Board for the Twelfth District of Connecticut which included the Towns of Sherman, New Fairfield, Brookfield, Danbury, Bethel, Redding and Ridgefield. Howard W. Taylor of Danbury was Chairman of the Board, Harvey P. Bissell, Secretary and Dr. Russell W. Lowe Chief Medical Examiner.

In April, 1917, Dr. William H. Allee and Seth Low Pierrepont were appointed on the committee to mobilize the resources of Fairfield County.

The local Registration Board for the Selective Draft for Ridgefield was as follows: First Selectman Orville W. Holmes, Executive Officer; George G. Knapp, Clerk; Winthrop E. Rockwell and Frank Taylor, Registrars.

On May 22nd, 1917, the above named board went to Danbury where they received instruction in reference to their duties from Major J. Moss Ives. On May 23rd, 1917, Selectman Holmes appointed the following members to this board: Howard S. Hibbart, Frederick W. Olmstead, Arthur J. Ferry, Frederick W. Davis, Charles Wade Walker, George E. Benedict, William J. Humphrys, Lawrence Copes, Interpreter.

Meanwhile the National League of Woman's Service was organized in Ridgefield, April 3rd, 1917, with the following officers: Local Chairman, Miss Mary Linda Bradley; First Vice-Chairman, Mrs. Ebenezer W. Keeler; Second Vice-Chairman, Mrs. Seth Low Pierrepont; Secre-

tary, Mrs. Charles T. McGlynn; Treasurer, Mrs. Bert E. Sperry. This organization took charge of the Red Cross work until the Red Cross Branch was organized in January, 1919, at which time, this particular work was transferred to the Red Cross. Detachment Commandants were appointed to take up War work that might arise, as follows: Mrs. E. F. Brown, Mrs. Wilmot L. Hibbart, Mrs. David Watt, Miss Marion H. Nash, Mrs. James Cumming, Mrs. James H. Perry, Mrs. David Workman, Mrs. Mary Valden, Mrs. R. W. Lowe, Miss Jennie L. Hennelly, Mrs. Joseph S. Rowland. Mrs. Edward R. Smith was chairman of the Jam Committee and the result of the work of this committee was one thousand pounds of jam, which was sent to our soldiers in France. The League also assisted in selling War Savings Stamps; Christmas packages were sent to the soldiers overseas and in the training camps at home. The League also conducted a Woman's Exchange for several years, their portion of the sale being given to the War Memorial Scholarship. This Scholarship was founded in 1919 and became operative in 1922. It was founded "For the Upbuilding of Humanity, Loyalty and Ability to the Living Honor of Those who Served and Died, That these Things may Grow."

In June, 1917, just three hundred men registered for the selective draft. Already a number of our citizens were abroad fighting with the French Army. The list of soldiers from Ridgefield is given in detail at the end of this chapter.

On May 18th, 1917, a home guard was formed in Ridgefield, when Platoon No. 1, Connecticut Home Guard, was mustered into service by Captain Clarence Judson of Danbury. The members were:

2nd Lieutenant David Workman, 1st Sergeant William Creagh, Supply Sergeant Joseph Zwerlein, Corporal Rev. John M. Deyo, Corporal Norman C. Walker, Corporal Ellsworth F. Brown and Corporal Bernard F. Keeler.

Privates:— Henry W. Allen, M. D., Achille Bacchiochi, Fiore Baldi, Willis G. Boyce, Vincent Bedini, Octavius J. Carboni, Calisto Canelli, Howard L. DeNike, Fred W. Eccard, Theodore E. Francis, Harry E. Hull, R. Edward Haight, Robert R. Keeler, S. Albert Lindstrom, Douglas Main, John S. Morganti, Fritz E. Rux, Russell Schork, Howard D. Smith, James D. Sweeney, Atiglio Tarsi, Sherman W. Waite, Byron L. Sherwood, John J. Mahoney, John W. Smith, Francis C. Girollametti, Giardini Gaetana.

Several of the above entered the service, and others stepped into their places. Those who joined later were D. Harvey Valden, James Coffey, Arthur J. Ferry, Thomas W. Ryan, Herman Martin, Harry Rasco, Ernest Sturges, Harvey Beardsley, Lawrence Leary, Roland J. Mulford, Domenico Manzo. Dr. Henry W. Allen was appointed Platoon Medical Examiner.

On July 4th, 1917, a flag was presented to the platoon by Mrs. James Cumming in behalf of the various women's organizations. The exercises were held on the school grounds on East Ridge in the presence of a large assembly. Lieutenant Arthur D. Wood of Danbury was in command of the platoon until he entered the regular service and went overseas. In August, Reverend John M. Deyo was elected first lieutenant of the Ridgefield Platoon upon the resignation of Lieutenant Wood.

On December 20th, 1917, a War Bureau, the official branch of the State Council of Defense, was organized by Senator Harvey P. Bissell, who had been designated by the State Council for that purpose. Seth Low Pierrepont was chosen president of the Ridgefield Council.

Mrs. Frederic E. Lewis was chosen chairman of the local Branch of the Red Cross, which society did wonderful work in our town.

Among the most active and zealous of our people must be mentioned Miss Mary Linda Bradley, Chairman

of the local unit of the National League of Women's Service. Miss Bradley was also Chairman of the Ridgefield Committee on Home Economics. Untiring in her efforts, by her work and her example, she greatly aided in successfully carrying through every project, task and endeavor that was brought before the people of Ridgefield with the idea of speedily ending the world conflict. The Sewing Committee of the National League of Women's Service did a great work for the soldiers at home and overseas. Mrs. B. E. Sperry was Chairman of this Committee. In the meantime the people of Ridgefield were called upon to make the sacrifices that were generally being made throughout the United States. Flour and sugar were used sparingly. On March 1st, 1918, Daylight Savings was inaugurated by Act of Congress for the first time in the country. Three cent postage on letters went into effect November 2nd, 1917. Liberty loans were established and Ridgefield displayed a wonderful zeal as the subscriptions from the town testify.

Subscription to first loan	\$ 96,000.00
Subscription to second loan	148,000.00
Subscription to third loan	204,000.00
Subscription to fourth loan	366,400.00
Subscription to fifth loan	303,400.00
TOTAL	\$1,117,800.00

The amount subscribed over the quota was \$690,900.00.

Among the important organizations in the town that assisted in carrying on the war work was the Ste. Cecile Liberty Chorus of fifty voices which was organized under the direction of Charles Wade Walker.

In March, 1918, a Town Survey was made of the resources of the farms. This Agricultural Survey was taken under the auspices of the Connecticut Council of Defense and the Fairfield County Farm Bureau. The town surveyors were as follows:

Ridgebury	Lyman Keeler and Charles F. Palmer
Scotland	Thaddeus Crane and Marshall Early
Farmingville	George L. Rockwell
Limestone	Frank I. Beers
Flat Rock	Arthur W. Northrop

James Cumming was the Town Director. The districts not mentioned were covered by the above surveyors in connection with their own.

On July 24th, 1918, a reception was given to the thirteen selective service men by Mrs. Cass Gilbert at her home, assisted by her daughter, Miss Emily Gilbert, Mrs. W. S. Rainsford and Mrs. George G. Haven. The following day the people of the town assembled in front of the town hall to tender the soldiers a farewell reception. Warden Hiram Davis addressed them, and accompanied by over two hundred of the townspeople, they went to Danbury and entrained for Camp Devens.

During this time, many mass meetings were held in connection with liberty loans and other war measures. On Sunday, September 8th, 1918, there was a large gathering of people in front of the town hall to witness and participate in the exercises incident to a Flag Raising. A flag was presented to the town by Mrs. Frederic E. Lewis. Upon this occasion the State Guard was present, the platoons from Danbury, Bethel and Redding joining with Ridgefield. The Danbury Junior National Guards under command of Major J. Moss Ives, were present and made a fine appearance. The instrumental music was furnished by the State Guard Band of Bethel and the Ridgefield Band. Mrs. George Doubleday sang "The Marseillaise" and David Bispham sang the Italian National Anthem, also the English National Anthem. Led by Mr. Bispham, the entire assembly sang "The Star Spangled Banner."

Meanwhile, sadness entered the homes of Ridgefield. On January 5th, 1918, word came of the death of William

J. Cumming, who died in the hospital at Vittel, France. Again came the sad news on April 27th of the death of Robert Dunlop at Camp Wadsworth, Spartenburg, South Carolina. On July 29th, 1918, Everett Ray Seymour was killed in action near Fere-en-Tardenois, France. The following letter was received by Reverend John M. Deyo from Reverend Francis P. Duffy, Chaplain of the 165th Infantry. The tribute paid this brave and gallant young man is worthy of record:

165th Infantry, A. E. F., France,
October 22nd, 1918.

Reverend John M. Deyo,
Ridgefield, Connecticut.
Dear Mr. Deyo,

I wrote a letter to the family of Everett Ray Seymour just after I got out of the hospital about six weeks ago, and am sorry if it did not reach them. Their boy died fighting gallantly in the most desperate charge made by men of this regiment in its long annals. His battalion crossed Ourcq River, near Fere-en-Tardenois, in the early morning of Tuesday, July 29th, and were, for hours, the only American troops opposed to the Germans.

They fought their way up hill all that long morning, cleaning up machine gun nests, and near the very summit young Seymour was brought down by a bullet that suddenly ended his brief but glorious career. I buried him on the field where he fell, his fittest resting place; his grave is marked with a cross, and the place recorded.

I extend this expression of our sympathy to his bereaved family with hope that they will find strength and consolation in the same sources of family character and unselfish motive that inspired the fine life and gallant death of their heroic son.

Yours fraternally,
Francis P. Duffy, Chaplain.

A photograph of the grave is in the rooms of the American Legion Post at Ridgefield.

To another Ridgefield boy came signal honors. Though only eighteen years of age, Carleton R. Stevens had the

high honor of being selected to deliver the first sectional terms of the armistice to General Pershing. He rode a motor-cycle eight hundred and twenty-seven miles from Chaumont to Touraine, and return. He covered this distance in nineteen hours and ten minutes. He was thrown from his machine once, going into a mud-hole beyond which was a rock. He alighted from the machine only twice during the entire trip, but stopped three times. While on the trip, he ate chocolate for refreshment. From Touraine he returned at once to Chaumont and delivered the terms to General Pershing himself. While alone on a trip in France at another time, he was obliged to hide in a hole in a swamp for five days because of heavy shell fire, eating only raw bacon and such water as he could catch in his tin hat from the rain.

Another of Ridgefield's soldiers who fell in battle was Carlo Scaglia, reported as missing. He was killed in action on September 5th, 1918. His comrades report that he was blown to pieces by a shell.

In October, 1918, rumors were current that the war might be brought to a close if certain terms could be met. In many cities and villages the people turned out in great numbers, attending meetings with but one thought and purpose; to demand unconditional surrender. A mass meeting was held in Ridgefield on October 14th, at which many of the citizens expressed their sentiments. Selectman Orville W. Holmes presided and called upon Dr. George G. Shelton, Reverend Edward D. Bassett, Reverend William B. Lusk, Dr. William S. Rainsford, Miss Marguerite Gaujot, George L. Rockwell, Jesse L. Benedict and several other citizens, all of whom spoke with the one idea that prompted the call of the meeting. A resolution was passed asking for unconditional surrender, and telegraphed to President Wilson.

On November 7th, the false news came that the armistice had been signed. When the report reached Ridge-

field the entire population turned out, flags were unfurled, bells were rung. School bells in the country districts were rung continuously all the afternoon. The Methodist church bell was rung so violently that it was thrown out of its sockets. The old Civil War bell that stood, and still stands, upon the grounds of the late Governor Phineas C. Lounsbury was brought into requisition. This bell was brought from the slave market in New Orleans by Colonel Alexander Warner at the close of the Civil War. The old mortar, used in former Fourth of July celebrations, was resurrected and fired. A big parade was formed and the Ridgefield Band went up and down the street in a truck, playing national airs. The Ridgefield Home Guard led the procession. The National League of Women's Service followed, also on foot, led by Miss Mary Linda Bradley. Then came the Italian American Citizens Political Society. After the parade, the citizens assembled in the town hall, where a mass meeting was held.

An American Legion Post was organized in Ridgefield, August 10th, 1920. The Post was appropriately named Everett Ray Seymour Post No. 78. The following is a list of the commanders: Joseph A. Roach, George N. Bloomer, John J. McCarthy, Harry E. Hull, Carl A. Gustafson, Robert R. Keeler, the present commander. One of this number, Harry E. Hull, was elected in 1926 Vice-Commander of the Department of Connecticut. He is also Commander of the Third District which comprises Fairfield County with seventeen Legion Posts. The American Legion Auxiliary Everett Ray Seymour Post No. 78 was organized February 5th, 1924. A list of the presidents of this society is as follows: Mrs. James Cumming, Mrs. Harry D. Hull, Miss Ruth E. Wills, and Miss Elsie Rux.

On July 4th, 1925, the Dedication of the War Memorial Monument was held in Ridgefield with appropriate ceremonies. The monument stands upon a portion of the old parade ground or church yard. After a parade led

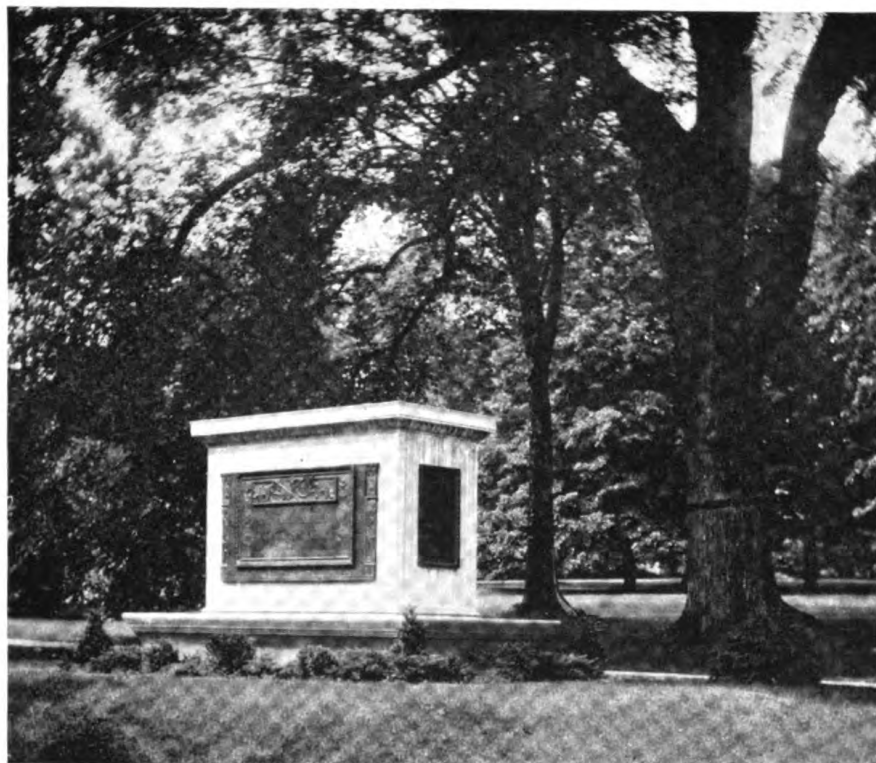
by the Ridgefield Band, the citizens numbering many hundreds, and friends from Danbury, Wilton, Norwalk, Bethel, and other towns, joined in the dedicatory exercises. After "America" was sung by the assembly, led by the band, Reverend Wilmot P. Lord offered the dedication prayer. An address upon the historic past of Ridgefield, a description of its early citizens and soldiers in the many wars of the country, was given by George L. Rockwell. Following this address, a school chorus rendered a selection. Reverend James W. Davis of Bridgeport, State Commander of the Grand Army of the Republic, who enlisted in the Civil War from Ridgefield, made a stirring address, telling of the tribulations and privations of the soldier in that conflict. The school chorus then sang "The Battle Hymn of the Republic." Another address then followed by Captain Anson T. McCook of Hartford. The exercises closed with "The Star Spangled Banner" by the band. Among those present on this occasion was Colonel Ira R. Wildman of Danbury, former state commander of the Grand Army of the Republic.

In the following list of soldiers from Ridgefield in the World War are included a number who have made Ridgefield their present home:

Louis A. Abbott. Enlisted May 15, 1918, New York City, Co. A, 331st Battalion, Light Tank Corps, 1st Army, trained at Gettysburg, Pa. Sailed overseas July 15 to Liverpool, thence by train to Havre, France. In training camp at Langres. Motor-cycle dispatch rider from Chaumont to front. At battle of St. Mihiel. In Argonne. At taking of Varennes, Grand Pre and Montfacon. Remained at Varennes until Feb. 1st. Sailed from Marseilles March 1st. At Camp Upton, and Camp Meade, Md. Discharged May 30, 1919.

Muriel Abbott. Nurse in France, at Base Hospital No. 69, at Savanay.

Edwin Muir Allen. Enlisted Apr. 14, 1917, at New Haven. Apprentice Seaman at Training Station, Newport, R. I. Assigned U. S. S. South Carolina and went aboard at Norfolk, Va., April 27, 1917. With Atlantic fleet. On way to Philadelphia sighted German submarine and opened fire. Submarine chaser convoying



SOLDIER'S MONUMENT,
Erected on the old Churchyard.



RESIDENCE OF HON. HARVEY P. BISSELL, WEST LANE.

the South Carolina dropped two depth bombs. In Sept., 1918, convoyed 14 transports to France. Made 4 trips to France. Discharged, Bay Ridge, Brooklyn, July, 1919. Ratings held during enlistment: Apprentice Seaman, Seaman 2nd Class, Quartermaster 3rd Class, Quartermaster 2nd Class. After armistice was signed was assigned to carrying troops home from France.

Joseph Ancona. Camp Devens, enlisted in service September, 1917, Corporal. At Camp Gordon, Liverpool. Havre, France. The Toul Sector. Battles of Argonne Forest and St. Mihiel. 82nd Division, 328th Headquarters Co. Gassed at Argonne. Discharged June, 1919, at Camp Upton.

Frank Ancona. Enlisted from Ridgefield, 1917, Camp Upton, 76th Div., Co. F, Infantry. On guard duty at Niagara Falls. Camp Upton, then Camp Wills. Discharged 1918.

Clarence Edward Avery. Enlisted July 2, 1917, 56th Artillery, 8th Co., Coast Artillery, Mechanic. Discharged July 3rd. 1919.

James Howard Bailey. Entered service October 4, 1917. Was at Camp Devens, Camp Gordon, over seas, on supply train.

Clifford Banks. Entered service July, 1917, 8th Co., Coast Artillery of Connecticut, Battery E, 3rd Battalion, Fort H. G. Wright. Mustered in Federal Service, Sept. 1917. Landed in France Apr. 5, 1918. Went into action Aug. 18, Battle Aisne, Marne, Meuse and Argonne Forest. At Clery le Petit, Nov. 11, 1918. Returned from Brest on U. S. S. South Dakota, Jan. 5, 1919. Discharged Jan. 28, 1919, at Fort Schuyler.

Walter Fuller Barrett. Entered service Sept., 1917, Camp Devens, transferred to Kelly Field, Texas. Wireless and electrical work in the aviation. University of Austin, Texas, Carnegie Tech., Pittsburgh, took a course in aviation. Overseas to Brest, France. Service at Tours and elsewhere in France. Discharged May 19, 1919, at Mitchell Field.

Frederick Taylor Bates. Enlisted Oct. 3, 1917, at Bridgeport. 76th Division, Headquarters Co., 304, Camp Devens. Sailed from Charlestown, Mass., Navy Yard July 7, 1918. Landed at Royal Albert Docks, Gravesend, London. Camp Wimbeldon. Landed at Havre. Orleans. Chateau Neuf. Three miles from front on Nov. 8. Waited until Armistice. Instruction in French School. Discharged Oct. 11, 1919, at Camp Dix.

Harry Cornwall Bates. Enlisted June 29, 1917, 2nd class machinist's mate, U. S. Navy, stationed at Pelham Bay yard, Sept. 13, 1918 — Nov. 18, 1918. Transferred to Wissachecken Barracks, Cape May, N. J. Discharged February 10, 1919.

Francesco John Bedini. Entered service June 22, 1918, at Bethel, Conn. Overseas in France. Ambulance Driver, Medical Dept.,

Camp Greenleaf, Ga. Battles of Argonne Forest, St. Florent. At Luxemburg and with the Army of Occupation.

Pasquale Bedini. Enlisted July 22, 1918. At Camp Devens; also service in France.

Allen George Bennett. Third Naval District, U. S. Naval Reserve Force. Service Pelham Bay and Iona Island, making depth bombs. Also at Receiving Ship, New York City. On active duty July 8, 1918, to December 17, 1918. Rating, Seaman 2nd Class. Enrollment terminated September 30, 1921.

Lieut. Robert P. Bissell. Enlisted July 15, 1917, Sergt. 7th Regt., N. Y. Commissioned Lieut. 107th Infantry. Service in France and Belgium. East Poperinghe Line, Belgium; Hindenburg Line September, 1918. In action Battle of Arbire, Guernon, La Selle River, St. Souplet, Jonc de Mer Rouge, Oct., 1918; St. Maurice River Cotillon, Oct. 19-20, 1918. Discharged at Camp Upton, Feb. 28, 1919.

George N. Bloomer. Entered service at Danbury. Served at Boston Auto Mechanics' School. Sergt. of Ordinance, Camp Jackson, Battery A.

Andrew Francis Brady. Entered service June, 1917, Co. F, 74th Infantry, 12th Division at Camp Devens. Received a medal for drilling and in special parade marksmanship. Assigned to trench work. Discharged at Camp Devens.

James J. Brady. Entered service August 26, 1918, at Camp Greenleaf, Ga., attached to Medical Corps. Sailed from Hoboken for St. Nazaire. Transferred to 29th Division. Went to Alsace Front where he was under fire. Attached to 104th Engineers, thence to Sammelon and Bugars. Sailed from St. Nazaire for Hoboken. Mustered out June 1, 1919.

John H. Brown. Entered service Dec. 7, 1917, seaman U. S. Navy.

Benjamin Brown. Entered service New Haven recruiting station. U. S. Navy. Fireman second class.

Robert Mills Brundage. Entered service October 4, 1917. At Camp Devens, Co. M., 82nd Div., at Camp Gordon, sailed for Brest, attached 148th U. S. Infantry, Co. H., 37th Div.; battles of St. Mihiel, Argonne Forest, Baccarat, Avoncourt. Served in France from July 5, 1918, to March 24, 1919.

Ernesto Alexander Brunetti. Entered service August 6, 1918, at Bethel, Conn. At Fort Slocum; then to Camp McClellan, Ala. Private, Artillery 9th Ammunition Train. Discharged at Camp Upton, Feb. 6, 1919.

Luigi Bruschi. Enlisted July 22, 1918. Camp Devens, Co. I, 42nd Inf.

Rudolph Bryon. June 5, 1917. In service as Secretary Y. M. C. A. at officers training camp, Plattsburgh, N. Y.

J. Ogden Bulkley. Ambulance Corps. Enlisted in United States Army at Somme Suippe, France, September, 1917, as Private in the U. S. A. A. S., attached to the 67th Division of the French Army, and served until April, 1919.

Arnold Roy Camp. Entered service Feb. 15, 1918. Army aviation. Discharged July 26, 1919.

Arthur James Carnall. Seaman, U. S. Navy, service, 3 mos. at Pelham Bay, 17 mos. on U. S. S. Granite State, Admiral's Hdqts., 3rd Naval District. Discharged July, 1919.

Samuel E. Carpenter, Jr. Was awarded the Croix de Guerre by the French Government; enlisted in French army at the outbreak of the war.

Charles E. Casey. U. S. Army Supply Co., 42nd Inf. Camp Devens and Camp Upton.

John F. Christopher. Enlisted March, 1918, Co. A, 345 Battalion, T. C. A. E. F. Tank Service. In Battles of Verdun and the Argonne.

Lieutenant John A. Connell. Plattsburgh Training Camp, Aug., 1917. Commissioned 1st Lieutenant, Aviation Squadron, Signal Corps, U. S. Regulars, Nov. 26, 1917. Arrived at Aviation Concentration Camp, Field No. 2, Garden City, Dec., 1918, unassigned. Ordered to Morrison, Va., Jan. 6, 1918, assigned to 66th Squadron, Jan. 8, 1918. Arrived at Brest, Feb. 5, 1918. Stockbridge and various parts of England. Re-appointed 1st Lieut. Reserves, Mar. 24, 1919, attached to Gen. Hdqts., 2nd Corps, Aug., 1922. Assigned to 348 Balloon Service Co., Gen. Hdqts., XI Corps, Nov., 1924. In command of above company of reserves, in 1927.

John F. Coughlin. 301st Engineers, Co. C, 76th Division.

Henry McGregor Cumming. Enlisted Aug. 6, 1918, at Bethel, Conn., service Aug. 10. Sept. 5, 1918, in school for Bakers and Cooks. Attached to Battery E, 26th Regt., Capt. E. R. Bowman at Camp Jackson. Re-enlisted April 8, 1919, at Camp Jackson and attached to Walter Reed General Hospital, Washington, D. C. Discharged Aug. 17, 1920.

William J. Cumming. Enlisted Apr. 3, 1917. First man to enlist from Ridgefield. Trained at Niantic. Private 1st class, Ambulance Co. No. 102, 22nd Division, as Ambulance Driver. Died at Hospital at Vittel, France, Jan. 5, 1918. Buried in the American Cemetery, Romagne sur Montfacon, Meuse, France.

Ciro Dottori. Enlisted July 22, 1918. Camp Devens.

Fred H. Davis. Enlisted July 17, 1917. Co. B, 9th Infantry, 2nd Division, U. S. Regulars. Battles of Chateau Thierry, Soissons, St. Mihiel. Was wounded in right arm at St. Mihiel, Sept. 16, 1918.

Frederick Washburn Davis. Born in Ridgefield, May 15, 1896. Enlisted as a musician (cornetist), in 71st Regt., N. G. State of N. Y. Band, Middletown, N. Y. Stationed at Van Cortlandt Park, New York City. Then 6 weeks at Camp Wadsworth, Spartanburg,

S. C. Promoted to Personnel Sergeant 54th Pioneer Infantry. Was in Argonne Drive. With Army of Occupation at Coblenz. Service 2 years to a day. Member of Ridgefield Board Selective Draft.

Paul Davis. Corp., 25th Co., 10th Regt., Coast Artillery 56th Heavy Artillery, Battery F, service over seas. Clermont-Ferrand, Charly on the Marne, Foret de Hess and in the Argonne. Was at Clery Le-Petit when armistice was signed.

Robert Dunlop. Company A., 102nd Military Police, died Apr. 27, 1918, at Camp Wadsworth, Spartanburg, S. C. Buried St. Mary's Cemetery, Ridgefield.

John H. Ellwell. Enlisted Dec. 12, 1917, Ordnance Dept.

Harry Fallamal. At Camp Devens Nov., 1917. Enlisted Oct. 4, 1917. Overseas 9th Inf.; with Army of Occupation. Discharged Aug. 13, 1919, at Camp Devens.

Paul Flatisher. Enlisted Sept 20, 1917. At Camp Devens Nov. 6, 1917, 4th Co., Quartermaster Corps.

Edward Franceschini. Enlisted in Danbury. 15 days at Camp Devens. Discharged, burned hand.

Theodore E. Francis. Corporal, Supply Co., Camp Merritt, enlisted July 17, 1917. At Fort Slocum.

Guiseppe Giambartolomei. 61st Regt., 5th Division, service overseas, in action Argonne Forest and at Verdun, Alsace-Lorraine.

Lt. Cass Gilbert, Jr. Enlisted Nov. 27, 1917. Field Artillery, Plattsburgh, N. Y. 2nd Lt. 17th Field Artillery, 2nd Div. Engagements, Verdun, Chateau Thierry, Belleau Woods, Soissons, Villiers Cotteret, Marbach Sector, St. Mihiel, Champagne, Argonne. Discharged June 5, 1919 at Washington, D. C.

George Gilbert. Service U. S. S. Bridge. Also attached to President Wilson's yacht, "Mayflower". Died at Bridgeport, 1926. Buried in Titicus Cemetery.

Harold Steele Gillum. Entered service July 26, 1917, at Syracuse, N. Y. Chemical Warfare, 158th Regt., Willoughsby, Ohio, making gas. Discharged Dec. 22, 1918.

Edward R. Gray. Enlisted Oct. 5, 1917. Private, Canadian Expeditionary Force. Discharged July, 1919.

Carl Gustafson. Enlisted Fort Wright, 56th Regt., Coast Artillery Corps. Service over-seas. Landed at Brest, Battle Velve, Chateau Thierry, Argonne, Army of Occupation, 56th Infantry, Co. C, 4th Division.

Alden Lessey Haight. Enlisted Oct. 25, 1918, at Boston. Service, Aviation Field, Garden City, Long Island, 8th Co., 125th Handley Page Photo Section. Sent to Kelly Field, Tex. Back to Garden City. Made maps. Mustered out Dec. 12, 1918.

John F. Haight. U. S. Navy, service on U. S. Transport Manchuria. Made several trips over-seas. Enlisted Oct., 1917. Discharged Dec., 1918.

Robert Edward Haight. Enlisted Mar. 16, 1918. Service at Newport, R. I. Radio School, Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass. Also at Radio Station, N. Y., Discharged Dec. 12, 1922.

George G. Havens, Jr. Ambulance Corps, France.

Werner Hartmann. Private, Students Army Training Corps.

Robert B. Hendricks. Enlisted Dec. 14, 1917, Ordnance Dept.

Harry E. Hull. Enlisted July 16, 1917, Co. H, 9th Infantry, Corps (the 9th Infantry has been organized over 125 years.) Sailed Sept. 18, 1917, for France. Landed Liverpool, Oct. 1, 1917. Thence to Southampton and to Havre, France. In training at Beaumont and Vaudrecourt. Service wood-cutting at Eclaron. Back to Vaudrecourt. Regt., under Col. L. S. Upton, on Mar. 14, 1918, entrained for front. April 13-14 first engagement, Marie Louise sector. Gen. Pershing congratulated the 9th Infantry upon bravery in this battle. Regt. sent in May to Bar-le-duc. Ordered to hold Paris-Metz road near Thoilet, also to hold latter city. Companies G and H attacked and took town of Vaux, Chateau Thierry. July 18, 1918, in battle of Soissons. July, 1918, promoted Sergeant. July 31st at Nancy, Regt. lost 1358 men. In Sept. moved to St. Mihiel front. Sept 12 in battle. Having been injured at Chateau Thierry, was sent to hospital after battle of St. Mihiel. Sailed from Bordeaux for home Mar. 13, 1919. Discharged April 4, 1919.

John W. Hubbard. Sergeant, 1st class, 16th Service Co., Signal Corps., Military Intelligence Branch. Inducted into service June 24, 1918, at Ft. Wood, N. Y. Promoted Corp. Oct. 3, 1918. Promoted Sergt. Dec. 1, 1918. Service at Washington, D. C., Ft. Bliss, Texas, El Paso, stationed at Tucson until Nov. 20, 1918. While on leave was ill at Gun Hill Road Hospital, N. Y. City. At Ft. Wood until discharged Mar. 15, 1919.

David Hyer. Enlisted Bridgeport, July 12, 1917, as seaman U. S. Navy. Service at Newport, R. I., Portsmouth, N. H. Attached to U. S. S. Topeka, transferred to Brooklyn Navy Yard. On U. S. S. Illinois on cruise to West Indies, Santiago de Cuba, Virgin Islands. Cruised along Atlantic Coast from New York to Va. Discharged Oct. 1, 1920.

Lieut. Colin M. Ingersoll. Lieut. 102nd Infantry. Enlisted June 15, 1917. Battles of Trugny and Chateau Thierry. Wounded at Chateau Thierry. Discharged March 21, 1919.

Jonathan Ingersoll. Enlisted in the French army, Camion service, stationed at Soissons and Jouaignes hauling ammunition to the front. Member of sections No. 397 and No. 526 of the Reserve Mallet. Enlisted in American Service Aug., 1917. After the entry of America was attached to Hdqts. American Aviation as Chief Buyer of Supplies. Returned to U. S. on Paris, Dec. 1918.

Sereno T. Jacob. Enlisted while a citizen of Westport, Oct., 1916, in the Foreign Legion, Aviation Section, L'Escadrille Lafayette.

Promoted Adjutant in French Army in Squadron 157, serving one year on the front from Alsace-Lorraine flying to Soissons. At Chateau Thierry. At Siege of Rheims July 14. In the Argonne, Vouzier, Sedan. Continuing with the French Army as an American Lieutenant. In the French Squadron till the end of the war. Discharged Jan. 7, 1919, at Garden City, Long Island.

Capt. Theodore C. Jessup. Entered training camp at Plattsburgh, Apr., 1917. Commissioned 2nd Lt. Infantry, Aug., 1917. Commissioned 1st Lt. Infantry, Jan., 1918. Divisional Instructor in grenades, 77th Division, Camp Upton, Dec., 1917-April, 1918. A. E. F. France April to July, 1918. Commissioned Capt. Infantry July, 1918. Ordered to U. S. officers training camp in California and Arizona after being in action in Vosges, Baccarat section. Discharged Dec., 1918.

Carl Arvid Johnson (Of Georgetown) Lieutenant, Co. K, 305th Infantry, 77th Division, killed in action in the Argonne Oct. 18, 1918, aged 23.

Oscar F. Johnson (No. 109839). Enlisted June 22, 1916, at New Haven, Conn. After service on Mexican Border, transferred to Co. D, 102nd Machine Gun Battalion, at Camp Devens. Overseas and in action in Chateau Thierry, Toul Sector, Chemin de Dames, Aisne et Marne offensive, St. Mihiel, Troyon Sector, Meuse-Argonne. Gassed at Toul. Wounded by shrapnel in left shoulder at Meuse-Argonne, Nov. 3. Discharged April 29, 1919.

Victor Johnson (1266369). Enlisted Dec. 5, 1917, at Ft. Slocum as electrician, Corp. Air Service, 10th Co., 2nd Regt., A. S.M. Aviation. A. E. F. France March 4, 1918, to June 19, 1919. Discharged at Fitzsimmons General Hospital, Denver, Colorado, Nov. 15, 1920.

William Johnson. Entered service July 25, 1918, at Bethel, Conn. At Camp Devens. Attached to 10th Battalion, 37th Co., Depot Brigade. Placed on deferred list July 30, 1918.

Howard N. Jones. Enlisted Nov. 26, 1915, U. S. Navy, Electrician 3rd class.

Bartholomew J. Keefe. Entered U. S. Navy May 22, 1918. Service at Fort Slocum.

Edward A. Keefe. Enlisted at Bridgeport, July 28, 1917. Service at Fort Slocum and Kelly Field, Texas. Attached to the 470th Aerial Squadron at Mossion, Va., sailed from Newport News. Landed at Brest. Promoted to Corporal. Served 10 mos. at Salisbury Plains, England. Mustered out at Camp Mills, Dec. 14, 1918.

Lieut. Harold Y. Keeler. Commissioned 2nd Lt. March, 1918 — 1st Lt. July, 1918, 73rd Coast Artillery on staff of Col. Dwyer. Trained at Fortress Monroe; also at Ft. Standish and Ft. Baker. Service in France along the Marne with the 73rd Artillery Regt.; in France from Sept. to Dec., 1917. Transportation Corps in France from Dec., 1917, to June, 1919. Returned to U. S. June, 1919.

Was personnel officer, battery officer with Battery C, 22nd Battalion Adjutant.

Robert R. Keeler. Entered service Sept., 1918, Co. A, Connecticut Unit of the Students Army Training Corps. Discharged Dec. 17, 1918. Scheduled for officers' training school in Signal Corps work at the City College, N. Y.

John Cornelius Kelly. Enlisted Dec., 1917, at New Haven, Conn. Assigned to Submarine Chaser No. 183 (Capt. Thayer) as Machinist's Mate. Bases at Halifax and Sidney. Convoyed transports out of Halifax. Discharged Aug., 1919, at New London.

Thomas E. Kelly. Enlisted August 9, 1918. U. S. Infantry, Quartermaster's Corps.

Leo G. Kiernan. Ambulance Corps., N. Y. F. F. Artillery. Plattsburgh, enlisted May 24, 1917.

Duncan M. Kilday. Enlisted Aug. 1, 1918, U. S. Army.

William M. Kilday. Enlisted Aug. 20, 1918, Canadian Engineers.

Miss Mary A. King. Service Feb., 1915, to May, 1919, Territorial Force Nursing Service, 4th London General Hospital. Received British Over-seas Medal.

Lieutenant Rufus H. King. Enlisted Aug. 4, 1917, at N. Y. City. Private, Q. M. C. Commissioned Sergeant at Camp Dix July, 1918. Sent to School Camp Joseph E. Johnston. Commissioned 2nd Lt. Served A. E. F. France and in Army of Occupation in Germany. Discharged Oct. 4, 1919, at Camp Dix.

Joseph F. Knapp. Training in Philadelphia. Cook on Destroyer Rowan with Torpedo boat Flotilla. Stationed off Queenstown, Ireland. Enlisted at Bridgeport, 1917. Discharged Philadelphia, 1919.

Charles Robert Knoche. U. S. Navy. Enlisted June 15, 1917, seaman on mine sweeper.

Edward J. Knoche. Corporal, enlisted Sept. 19, 1917. Balloon Corps, Aviation. Fort Sill, Oklahoma.

Henry Langbehn. Enlisted in New York City May, 1917. Service Pelham Bay Training Station repairing automobiles, 2nd class machinist's mate.

Silvestro Lavatori. Co. G, 74th Regt., 12th Division, Camp Devens.

Frederick J. Leary. Enlisted 1917, 69th Regt. Inducted into 165th Infantry assigned to 42nd (Rainbow Division). Sailed over-seas A. E. F. Oct., 1917. 18½ months in France. In action, 3 defensive sectors, Luneville, Baccarat, Champagne. Major operations — Champagne, Aisne, Marne, St. Mihiel, Argonne, Meuse. Service in France, Belgium and with Army of Occupation in Germany. Was gassed twice. Returned to U. S. and was discharged in May, 1919.

Philip Silas Leary. Enlisted July 24, 1918, 69th Regt. Band; at Camp Forrest, Ga.

Reginald M. Lewis. Enlisted Sept., 1917, in Naval Reserve Force as 2nd class Yeoman. Released Mar. 3, 1919, with rating of Chief Petty Officer. Service under Commander George Barr Baker, later under Capt. Graham in Cable Censor Department. Previous service in American Ambulance Corps — volunteer service in summer of 1917.

Wadsworth R. Lewis. Enlisted 1917, Intelligence Service. Censoring Dept., War College, under Major Biddle.

Howard E. Light. Enlisted June 14, 1917, New York City, Co. I, 165th Infantry, Capt. Ryan. Served over-seas. Wounded at Ourcq River in foot, also in left side in same battle with shrapnel; Chateau Thierry; Battle of Champagne au Marne. Also at Toul, Baccarat and in trenches at Luneville. Champagne-Lorraine offensive. Discharged Mar. 22, 1919, at Camp Dix.

Morris Little. Enlisted July 24, 1918, U. S. Infantry. Discharged Jan. 28, 1919.

Edward C. Lobdell. Flying Cadets, Aviation Section, Signal Corps.

Daniel Lockwood, Jr. Enlisted July 22, 1918, Infantry.

Edward C. Lockwood. Enlisted Aug. 6, 1918, Infantry.

Gilbert Ranney Lowe. Enlisted June 27, 1918, Medical Corps, U. S. Navy. Chief Petty Officer, Medical Corps, Naval Hospital, Portsmouth, N. H.

Capt. Russell Walter Lowe. Approved by N. Y. Examining Board, N. Y. C. Chief Medical Examiner 12th Dist. Selective Service Board. Commissioned Lt. Sept. 10, 1918, and Captain Oct. 2, 1918. Detailed at Camp Greenleaf, also Infirmary Work at Camp Green and at Base Hospital, Camp Gordon. Ordered to report at Surgeon General's Office, Washington, D. C. Discharged Washington, D. C., April 9, 1919.

Harvey B. Lown. Enlisted New Haven, Jan. 7, 1918, U. S. Navy as apprentice seaman. Attached to U. S. S. Minnesota. Stricken with pneumonia and sick 2 months on U. S. Hospital Ship Mercy, thence to Norfolk Naval Hospital. Service on U. S. S. Tenadores, transport, as storekeeper, making 8 trips to France. On Dec. 28, 1918, shipwrecked in Bay of Biscay off Isle de Yeu, ship being cast on rocks at midnight. Embarked in life boats and 2 days later was picked up by a mine sweeper, taken to Army Camp at St. Nazaire. Sent to Newport News on U. S. S. Heron. Stationed at receiving ship at Bay Ridge, N. Y. Promoted to 1st class storekeeper on U. S. Destroyer Sampson and sent on cruise to Azores. Discharged at Brooklyn Navy Yard July 17, 1920.

Frederick F. Lunt. Supply Co., 38th Infantry, A. E. F., Battle of the Marne, Chateau Thierry, Metz. Enlisted Feb. 5, 1918. Ambulance Corps, Wagoner, 18 mos. over-seas.

Capt. Hampton Lynch. 69th Regt., Capt Field Artillery, 27th Division A. E. F.

Russell Lynch. 2nd Lieutenant, Infantry.

Simpson Lynch. 69th Regt., 2nd Lieutenant Infantry, 77th Div. A. E. F.

John J. Mahoney. Enlisted at Danbury May 1, 1918. Went to Camp McClellan, Armiston, Ala. Attached to 29th Div., Co. G, known as the Blue and the Grey. Landed over-seas at Brest July 10, 1918. Service in Alsace-Lorraine, Meuse, and front line trenches. Was 29 days in Oct., 1918, in the Argonne Forest. Regiment cited for bravery. Mustered out at Camp Upton, May 23, 1919.

Rudolph Marconi. Enlisted Aug. 6, 1918. Service at Camp Upton. Discharged Feb. 3, 1919.

James A. McAdams. Entered service July 29, 1918. Limited service. Discharged, disability.

John J. McCarthy. Enlisted at New Haven Dec., 1917, as electrician 1st class in U. S. Navy. Transferred to Pelham Bay. Rated as Machinist 2nd class. Service at Base Repair Station. Assigned work on patrol boats.

Robert Emmett McCarty. Enlisted Dec., 1917, at New Haven as 1st class plumber and fitter. Transferred to Great Lakes Naval Training Camp. Assigned to U. S. S. Imperator going overseas to Brest. Discharged Nov., 1919.

Charles E. McCoy. Infantry, at camp in the South. Entered service May 3, 1918.

William P. McGlynn. U. S. Navy, ship fitter, 2nd class, Naval Training School, Pelham Bay, then at Hamilton St. Naval Base, New Haven. Service from April, 1918, to Dec., 1918.

Charles Lester Mead. Entered service Aug. 26, 1918. Service at Camp Greenleaf, Ga.

Louis F. Mead. Enlisted May 23, 1918, at Danbury. Battery A, Capt. Marion C. Taylor, 301st Field Artillery, A. E. F. Service at Camp Upton, Camp Devens, overseas Liverpool, Havre, in training camp. Mustered out at Camp Mills Jan. 18, 1919.

Joseph Meissner. U. S. Coast Artillery. Enlisted Jan. 18, 1917.

Mariano Montenari. Corp., Salvage Unit 302. Served overseas.

Frank Minnerly. Overseas in France. Truck Driver at Bordeaux Docks. Discharged at Camp Upton, July 28, 1919.

John Leslie Moore. U. S. Navy. Enlisted April 6, 1917, at New Haven. Served at Newport and Hampton Roads. Assigned to Torpedo Boat Destroyer McDougal. Sailed over-seas May, 1917. Served on Mine Sweeper, and under fire off northern coast of France. At close of war served on transport from Boston to Constantinople. Discharged at Brooklyn Feb., 1919.

Giovanni Silvio Morganti. 307th Regt. Supply Co., 77th Division, Camp Devens, Camp Upton, England and France. Battles on Feindres front, Alsace-Lorraine, Baccarat, Marte et Moselle,

Chateau Thierry, Fenes River, Fisme, Argonne from Sept. to Armistice. Wounded in forehead.

John J. Morrisroe. Enlisted in 1917. McCaskey, Commanding Officer. Training School at Camp Upton. Drove motor-car. Overseas with 49th Infantry. Drove for Col. Adolph Huguet (from Lorraine), Commander of Regt. until war ended. Under fire at Chateau Thierry, receiving several wounds on head and gassed. Discharged 1919.

Leonard Nally. Enlisted at Bridgeport Apr. 19, 1917, assigned to Fifth Infantry of the Regular Army. Service Ft. Slocum. Sailed for Panama Apr. 28, 1917. Cornetist in Fifth Infantry Band. Transferred to Co. E, 33rd Infantry. Appointed Drill Inspector. Returned to U. S. 1919. Camp Shelby, Mississippi. Discharged Camp Upton May 21, 1919.

Charles W. Neth, Jr. Enlisted Aug. 2, 1917, Sergeant Battery E, 56th Heavy Artillery, Service in France. Corporal.

Linus Northrop. Enlisted Nov. 12, 1917, in artillery at New Haven. Sent to Fort Wright, New London. Overseas spring of 1918, landing at Brest. Wagoner, driving truck with food supplies to front, following advance of troops as far as Argonne until armistice was signed.

Edgar Wayland Noyes. Enlisted Boston, Sept., 1916. Assigned to Naval Training Station at Newport. Assigned to U. S. S. Birmingham as storekeeper. Commissioned 1st class cook. Was in first convoy that carried troops across to St. Nazaire. Convoyed over 125,000 miles. Birmingham was at Venice day before armistice was signed. Later at Malta, Azores, Canary Islands. Remained in service and lost his life by drowning, being swept from his vessel at an early morning hour off the Virginia coast on June 27, 1921. Memorial service held July 19, 1921, at Methodist Church, Ridgefield.

S. Nunzarro (from Branchville). Camp Devens, over-seas. Taken prisoner.

Fred C. Oberheisser. Enlisted Jan., 1918. Auto Repair Shop.

Rev. John L. Oldham. Chaplain, Camp Doniphan, Fort Sill, Oklahoma.

Clayton L. Olmstead. Enlisted Nov., 1917, 183rd Co., Ordnance Dept., Inspector of Arms. Promoted to Ordnance Sergeant. Service in France at Is-sur-Tuille, Jonchery. Was with Army of Occupation at Coblenz. Discharged Oct. 5, 1919.

Richard Couch Osborn. U. S. Army, Fortress Monroe, 41st Regt., Artillery, C. A. C., Headquarters Detachment.

Daniel O'Shea. Enlisted at New York City July 26, 1918. Stationed at Camp Meade, Md., 32nd Field Artillery. Discharged Dec. 10, 1918.

Dennis O'Shea. Enlisted at New York City April 15, 1918. Stationed Camp Jackson, Fla., Quartermaster Corps. Overseas to

France from Newport News Aug., 1918. Attached to Base Hospital 117 Neuf Chateau until Feb., 1919. At Biarritz from Feb. to June, 1919. Discharged July 9, 1919.

Michele Paccadolmi. 37th Co., 10th Battalion, Depot Brigade, Camp Devens.

Thomas C. Paddock. Entered service July 22, 1918. Submarine service.

Constanzo Paminando. Service at Mitchell Field. Enlisted Aug. 26, 1918.

Earl W. Panzer. Left for over-seas Aug. 14, 1918, attached to 7th Army Corps Hdqts. Sergt., Signal Corps, Co. G, 52nd Depot Brigade, 26th Division. In France. With Army of Occupation, Dec., 1918, to June, 1919. 326th Field Signal Brigade.

William T. Peatt. Enlisted at Stamford May, 1917, in Depot Brigade. Camp Upton. Transferred to Camp Devens, 76th Div., 301st, Co. F. Over-seas, landed in England. Arrived in France and was in battle all along the front. St. Mihiel Mount Sec. At Death Valley. Wounded in hip. Gassed. At Veltsi Valley. At Coblenz with Army of Occupation.

Gino Petroni. Nov., 1917, at Camp Devens, 82nd Division. In action at St. Mihiel and Argonne.

Severino Piantinelli. Enlisted Nov. 6, 1917, at Camp Davis, 1st Army Corps (Engineer). Overseas. Argonne.

Seth Low Pierrepont. Enlisted June 4, 1918. U. S. Naval Reserve Flying Corps. Enrolled as Quartermaster. Promoted to Ensign, serving at Hampton Roads.

Lawrence Potter. Coxswain, U. S. Navy. Jan., 1919. Attached to the U. S. S. Arkansas. Service over-seas. Was present at the surrender of the German fleet.

William A. Preuss. Chief Store-keeper, 3rd Naval Supply Station at New York City.

Clyde DeWitt Raymond. Engineman 1st class, U. S. Naval Reserve Force.

Lt. John Reif. Enlisted at Bridgeport, 1917. Camp Devens, Camp Upton. Over-seas. In action at the front. With Army of Occupation.

Louis E. Reif. Enlisted Dec. 17, 1917, at Mount Vernon, New York. 1st Class Yeoman. Service in U. S. Naval Headquarters, New York City and Supply base. Discharged April 25, 1919.

Giuseppe Ricardo. Corporal, Camp Upton. Discharged July 8, 1919.

Robert E. Richardson, Jr. Entered service at New Haven in Aug., 1918. In charge clerical force at Regimental Headquarters, Pelham Bay Naval Training Station, Seaman 2nd Class. Discharged Dec. 28, 1918.

Lester Ritch. Entered service Oct. 3, 1917, at Danbury. Co. A, 25th Engineers, Camp Devens. Sailed from Hoboken. Landed at

Brest in 1st Convoy, Nov. 12, 1917. Thence to St. Nazaire, engaged in building hospital. Then to Bordeaux, working on American Dock. After training, left for Bar-sur-Aube, Sept., 1918. Then to Verdun. Then to Very. Oct. 6, 1918, in action along Meuse-Argonne front and under fire. Sailed from Brest May 14, 1919. Arrived in U. S. May 26, 1919. Discharged at Camp Upton, June 2, 1919.

Edward M. Roach. Corporal, Co. I, 304th Infantry, Camp Devens. Granted discharge for disability.

Joseph A. Roach. Co. C, Sarsfield Guard, 2nd Co, Infantry, Col. Ernest Isbel. Later 102nd Regt., U. S. Infantry, 26th Division, Yale Field, New Haven. Liverpool, Havre. Camp in the Vosges at Landaville. Instructed by the French Army in Intelligence Work. In action at Chemin-de-Dame, Fort Malmaison, L'Abri. Transferred to Toul Sector. Marne. At Seicheprey blown up on a raid by the enemy. Captured while unconscious. Four bullet wounds and 8 shrapnel wounds. Taken prisoner at Darmstadt. Imprisoned at Minister, also at Westphalia. Escaped to Holland border 43 miles away. Crossed to England and back to America from Liverpool.

Fritz E. Rux (No. 3033037). Enlisted Aug. 26, 1918, Infantry. Camp Greenleaf, Ft. Oglethorpe, Ga., and Camp Upton. Stationed at Mentone, France, 8 mos. Drove Ambulance. Drove Major Peck, in command at Mentone, 3rd Division. Returned to U. S. on Pocahontas. Discharged at Camp Devens. While over-seas traveled in England and Italy.

Gustave C. Rux. Enlisted Ridgefield Aug., 1918, Battery B, 27th Regt., 9th Div. Promoted to Sergt. Service at Camp McClellan, Ala. Discharged Feb., 1919, Camp Upton.

Lieut. John C. Sanford. Enlisted May 7, 1917, U. S. Naval Reserve. Seaman. Aug. 22, 1917, active duty at New Haven, Sept. 8, 1917, transferred to U. S. S. Madawaska. Transport to France. Commissioned Ensign U. S. Naval Reserve Force Jan. 2, 1918. U. S. S. Arizona with Battleship Fleet. Apr. 9, 1918, ordered to U. S. S. Hannibal, escort for submarine chasers. Over-seas to England. Served on board Hannibal, also submarine chasers in English Channel till Armistice was signed. On Hannibal escorting chasers home. Mar. 17, 1919, promoted Executive Officer. May 24, 1919, released from active duty and returned home. Commissioned Lieutenant July 1, 1919, U. S. Naval Reserve Force.

Horace Sanford. Enlisted Chief Machinist's Mate in U. S. Naval Reserve Force, May 24, 1917. Called into active service at New Haven, Aug. 22, 1917. Served in charge of repair base for submarine chasers as Chief Machinist's Mate. Feb., 1918, promoted to Warrant Machinist and relieved from active duty Jan. 10, 1919. Discharged May 24, 1921.

Carlo Scaglia. Enlisted May 23, 1918, Infantry. Reported blown to pieces, killed in action Sept. 5, 1918.

Benjamin H. Schneider. Enlisted July 22, 1918, Infantry. Service in France.

Frederick Schork. Service U. S. Transport Leviathan. Carpenter's Mate, U. S. Navy. Made 14 trips to Europe. Discharged Aug. 11, 1919.

Thomas Milton Scott. Sergeant, entered service Oct. 17, 1917, 150th Depot Brigade. Camp Devens. Service Camp Gordon. Assigned to aerial service. In action at Chateau Thierry and other battles. Discharged May 13, 1919.

Everett Ray Seymour. Enlisted Oct. 4, 1917. At Camp Devens Nov., 1917. Killed in action July 29, 1918, near Fere-en-Tardenois, France. Buried on the field of battle. (Account of his death given elsewhere in this chapter).

Rudolph Seymour. Entered service Sept., 1918. Co. A, Connecticut Unit of the Students Army Training Corps. Discharged Dec. 17, 1918.

Allen Wellington Shelton. Enlisted through the American Field Service in the French Army as a volunteer. Drove Truck at the front near Soissons. In Division T. M. 397, General Mallett, summer of 1917. Invalided home, fall of 1917.

Hawley E. Smith. Enlisted Sept. 20, 1917, overseas, O. & T. Center T. A., A. P. O. 753, A. E. F., Battery B, 59th Artillery Corps, Coast Artillery.

James Q. Smith. Enlisted May, 1917, 1st Co., Field Hospital Corps. Eighteen months over-seas.

John W. Smith. Enlisted July 3, 1918. U. S. Navy Commissary Dept., Brooklyn Navy Yard, also McKee Destroyer. Coast service around New York City. Discharged

Alfred W. Stevens. Enlisted Dec. 4, 1917, at New Haven. Called into active service June 26, 1918, at Bridgeport Base No. 2. Service 2nd Class Seaman, then promoted to Quartermaster. Sept. 9, 1918, transferred to Signal Officers School at Pelham Bay. Discharged Dec. 12, 1918.

Sergt. Carlton Ross Stevens. Rode Motor Cycle from Chaumont to Touraine. Delivered sectional terms of Armistice to Gen. Pershing. Enlisted June 21, 1918, U. S. Army Signal Corps. Under fire many times. Rendered distinguished service at the front.

Adrian B. Talbot. U. S. Army, Fortress Monroe, U. S. Infantry. Enlisted Oct. 22, 1918.

John A. Talbot. Enlisted May, 1917. Commissioned 2nd Lt.

Julius Tulipani. Orderly, enlisted Sept. 6, 1918. 24th Co., 152nd Depot Brigade, Camp Upton, 3rd Battalion.

Charles Patrick Venus. Enlisted Bridgeport, in U. S. Navy as stoker. Was promoted to oiler. Over-seas, France. Also in South America, West Pacific Coast. Enlisted Feb. 9, 1918.

John T. Venus. Enlisted Oct., 1918, service Fortress Monroe.

Battery C, 41st Regt., Heavy Artillery, Camp Upton. Discharged Dec. 18, 1918.

Mario Vergoni. Enlisted May 22, 1916, U. S. Infantry.

Andrew F. Waterbury. Enlisted July 22, 1918, U. S. Infantry.

William Weinberger. Enlisted at New York City July 3, 1917, in U. S. Navy. Served at Newport on U. S. S. Brigade as Ship's Carpenter, carrying supplies from Brooklyn to Yorktown Harbor, Va. Discharged January 11, 1919.

Fred J. Williams. Enlisted Sept. 20, 1917, Co. C, 328 Inf.

Walter Moore Williams. Co. L, 77th Division, 308th Regt., Camp Upton, over-seas April 5, 1918. Veisle, Meuse, Argonne. Injured in ankle. Discharged Camp Devens Mar. 21, 1919.

Fred J. Wilson. Balloon Squadron. Enlisted Aug., 1917. U. S. Army.

CHAPTER XXX

FRATERNAL AND SOCIAL ORGANIZATIONS

The oldest of the fraternal organizations in Ridgefield is Jerusalem Lodge No. 49 Ancient Free and Accepted Masons. This lodge was chartered by the Grand Lodge of Connecticut on October 5th, 1808. The following were the first officers: Daniel Jones, Worshipful Master, Daniel Bouton, Senior Warden, Philip Bradley, Junior Warden, Joshua King, Treasurer, Benjamin S. Smith, Secretary, John Watrous, Jr., Senior Deacon, Lot Forrester, Tyler.

The first meeting was held in the ball room of Amos Smith's Tavern on November 26th, 1808. The tavern stood upon the site of the present library. For many years Jerusalem Lodge had the distinction of having the oldest Mason in point of service, if not in years, in the United States and possibly the world. This member was Abijah Resseguie, who was initiated on October 13th, 1812, and at the time of his death had been a member of the Lodge nearly seventy-six years.

The following are the names of the masters from 1808 to 1927:

Daniel Jones	Sherwood Mead
Thaddeus Olmsted	Hezekiah Scott
Jacob Dauchy	Hiram K. Scott
Jeremiah Mead	David Dauchy
James S. Waterous	Samuel Scott
Lewis Olmsted	Charles Smith, Jr.
William Crocker	Aaron G. H. Hurlbutt
Philip Bradley	William S. Todd
David Keeler	Charles B. Northrop
Erastus S. Bouton	Samuel J. Barlow

Jacob Legrand Dauchy	Cyrus A. Cornen, Jr.
Archibald Y. Paddock	Frederick S. Bates
D. Smith Gage	D. Frank Bedient
Hiram Davis	George G. Knapp
William J. Humphrys	Thaddeus Keeler
William O. Seymour	George A. Mignery
Willis E. Weed	Alfred W. Stevens
Edward H. Smith	George E. Allen
George G. Scott	John W. Smith
George Lawrence	William H. Beers
Hiram K. Scott, Jr.	Edward P. Scott
Richard W. Osborn	John Walters
Willis S. Gilbert	

William H. Beers, who was master in 1924, was ninety years old at the time. In March, 1899, the Grand Lodge of Connecticut, George G. McNall, Grand Master, held a communication in Ridgefield, the occasion being the funeral of Edmund T. Mahon, an officer of the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia. Mr. Mahon married Miss Carrie Smith of Ridgefield, daughter of Samuel M. and Lucy (Lee) Smith, and his remains were laid to rest in the family plot in Titicus. George G. Scott was appointed District Deputy of the First Masonic District, which is comprised of seventeen lodges in Fairfield County, in February, 1925, and held that office for two years. He is now a permanent member of the Grand Lodge of Connecticut.

For a consideration of twenty dollars, Isaac Olmstead, 3rd, a blacksmith, gave the land upon which the Masonic Hall stands. This piece of ground is recorded as being in the northwest part of his home lot, but not on the corner. The portion deeded was fifty-two feet deep and twenty-six feet on the street. Mr. Olmstead was one of the first members to join after the organization in Ridgefield, receiving his third degree in 1809. At a town meeting held August 19, 1876, the town of Ridgefield voted to quit claim for one hundred dollars, to the Masonic Society

any interest they might have in the building known as the Town House and Masonic Hall, together with the lot of land belonging thereto and on which said house stands. The first floor of this building was used for many years for town meetings, the Masons holding their meetings on the second floor.

At a Town Meeting held October 5th, 1835, it was voted "That the Town purchase of Walter & Keeler Dauchy their Right in the Masonic Hall consisting of 44 shares, and of all other shares which may be obtained in said Hall, and will pay to said Dauchy's 250 Dollars for their said Right."

"Voted Messrs. Nathan Smith, William Sherwood and Thaddeus Keeler, 2nd, be a committee to carry said purchase into effect, and that said Committee be authorized and instructed to make necessary repairs in the inside of the Masonic Hall for the purpose of accommodating the People the next Town Meeting, by creating the same."

Seventeen years after Jerusalem Lodge was chartered, a chapter of Royal Arch Masons was established in Ridgefield. The charter was given May 12, 1825, and the chapter called Jerusalem Chapter No. 19. Old Masonic records give the names of only three of the officers; Jeremiah Mead, High Priest; David Banks, King; William Crocker, Scribe. The last officers were William S. Todd, High Priest; Sherwood Mead, King; Lewis A. Mead, Scribe; William W. Seymour, Treasurer; Hiram K. Scott, Secretary; Charles A. Jennings, Captain of the Host; Fred L. Smith, Principal Sojourner; Charles Olmstead, Royal Arch Captain; Jacob L. Dauchy, Third Veil; Samuel J. Barlow, Second Veil; Arthur N. Benedict, First Veil; Lewis C. Seymour, Tyler. The above held office in 1881. Since the organization of this chapter the following have been high priests: Jeremiah Mead, 1825; William Crocker, 1826; Hezekiah Scott, 1827-1861; Hiram K. Scott, 1861-1873; William S. Todd, 1873 until the chapter was given up in 1881.

Mamasco Chapter No. 62, Order of the Eastern Star, was instituted November 13th, 1905, and the charter granted January 30th, 1907.

The first officers were Worthy Matron, Mrs. Mary M. Gilbert; Worthy Patron, George G. Scott; Assistant Matron, Miss Josephine S. Nicholas; Secretary, Miss Kathleen A. O'Connor; Treasurer, Mrs. Lottie A. Scott; Conductress, Mrs. Faustina J. Scott; Assistant Conductress, Mrs. Florence C. Bates; Chaplain, Mrs. Jessie E. Selleck; Marshal, Miss Addie L. Gilbert; Pianist, Miss Mary L. Odell; Adah, Mrs. Augusta Hornig; Ruth, Mrs. Hilda M. Stevens; Esther, Mrs. Bertha A. Neth; Martha, Mrs. Amelia Hartmann; Electra, Mrs. Jennie C. Bates; Warder, Mrs. Carrie E. Panzer; Sentinel, Peter Hornig.

The present officers for 1927 are Worthy Matron, Miss Abbie M. Gilbert; Worthy Patron, Richard Hopper; Assistant Matron, Mrs. Annabelle Hopper; Secretary, Miss Addie L. Gilbert; Treasurer, Mrs. Jessie E. Selleck; Conductress, Miss Carrie A. MacCann; Assistant Conductress, Miss S. Louise Pehrson; Chaplain, Mrs. Abbie Boyce; Marshal, Mrs. Mary Keeler; Pianist, Mrs. Mary Brown; Adah, Mrs. Florence C. Bates; Ruth, Mrs. Mary M. Gilbert; Esther, Mrs. Sarah Frankel; Martha, Mrs. Lucy Rosenthal; Electra, Mrs. Lena M. Denton; Warder, Mrs. Blanche Scottow; Sentinel, Howard L. DeNike.

The following is a list of Worthy Matrons since the organization: Mrs. Mary Gilbert, 1905-1906-1907, Mrs. Josephine S. Knapp, 1908, Mrs. Jessie E. Selleck, 1909, Mrs. Julia B. Hoyt, 1910, Mrs. Hilda M. Stevens, 1911, Mrs. Sadie B. Whitlock, 1912, Miss Harriet S. Edmond, 1913, Mrs. Lena M. Denton, 1914, Mrs. Florence C. Bates, 1915-1916, Miss Camilla A. Bates, 1917, Miss Edna M. Benedict, 1918, Miss Flossie I. Clarke, 1919-1920, Mrs. Irene R. Nicholas, 1921, Mrs. Mary L. Brown, 1922, Miss Elizabeth Walters, 1923, Mrs. Faustina Scott, 1924, Mrs. Abbie Boyce, 1925, Miss Abbie Gilbert, 1926-1927.

Pilgrim Lodge, No. 46, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, was instituted June 11th, 1847. The first officers were: Noble Grand, James Scott, 2nd; Vice Grand, Augustus Lyon; Secretary, Lewis H. Bailey; Treasurer, Sereno S. Hurlbutt. The lodge has generally held its meetings since its first organization in the Masonic Hall. In 1924, the society purchased the lot south of Dr. B. A. Bryon's residence; the old site of the Harvey K. Smith tavern or inn. The society has a building fund, which amount is being added to annually, for the purpose of erecting a lodge room of its own.

After the fire in 1895, the lodge held meetings in Hartmann's Studio, in Sereno S. Hurlbutt's kitchen, and in the Big Shop. For a while meetings were held in Gage's Block and in the rooms over the store of the late Samuel D. Keeler, next to the Episcopal Parish House.

Among the first Noble Grands were many of the prominent men of Ridgefield in that day: Hiram K. Scott, Lewis H. Bailey, Sereno S. Hurlbutt, John Borden, John W. Miller, Samuel H. Northrup, John R. Sherwood, Jacob L. Dauchy, Nathan Perry and Abram Nash of Georgetown, Fred L. Smith, Sylvester C. Canfield.

In 1859, Colonel Hiram K. Scott of Pilgrim Lodge was elected Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Connecticut.

Mary Rebekah Lodge No. 51, I. O. O. F., of Ridgefield, was organized April 14th, 1905, with eighty-one members. The first officers were: Mary E. Robison, Noble Grand; Mary Keeler, Vice-Grand; Fannie S. Gilbert, Secretary; Mary M. Gilbert, Treasurer. The charter members were, Mrs. Mary E. Robison, Mrs. Mary M. Gilbert, Mrs. Margaret Metzler, Mrs. Mary Keeler, Mrs. Fanny S. Gilbert, Frank Taylor, Charles W. Neth.

Marquette Council No. 245, Knights of Columbus, was organized June 29th, 1897, James E. Hayes being Su-

preme Knight and Daniel Colwell, Supreme Secretary of the order at that time.

On May 9th, 1897, a meeting was held to organize a council in Ridgefield, and on June 20th a meeting was held and the following officers were elected: Grand Knight, Peter McGlynn; Deputy Grand Knight, James F. Kennedy; Recording Secretary, James A. Mullen; Financial Secretary, James E. Ryan; Chancellor, John Brophy; Treasurer, Michael T. McGlynn; Warden, James T. Mitchell; Lecturer, Edward F. Barrett; Inside Guard, Patrick McCarthy; Outside Guard, Frank W. Hurley; Advocate, Joel L. Johnson; Chaplain, Reverend Richard E. Shortell; Trustees, John Brophy, Thomas Flood, Michael McGlynn, Michael Connery, John Mullen.

On June 25th, John A. Quinn and other members from Danbury instituted the council. The council has been in a flourishing condition ever since its organization.

The youngest of the fraternal societies in Ridgefield at the present time is the Italian American Mutual Aid Society. It was organized November 20, 1913.

It was called the Italian American Political Club, Incorporated. The society, at a meeting held November 25th, 1915, voted to change the name of the society to "Italian American Citizens Political Club and Mutual Aid Society of Ridgefield, Connecticut, Incorporated." The following are the charter members:

Antonio Mei	Francesco Baldini
Attilio Tarsi	Giovanni Guinipero
Alfredo Danesi	Eduardo Gresser
Benvenuto Carboni	Giovanni Morganti
Ernesto Bronzino	Gaetano Giardini
Crescentino Severini	Marchese Pasquale
Clemente Pasquariello	Adolfo Rinaldi
Ciro Ciuccoli	Giovanni Spadoni
Ernesto Brunetti	Augusto Bertotti
Francesco Colombo	Alberto Servadio

Antonio Gaeta	Giosue Roberti
Alessandro Bellagamba	Guiseppe Frattini
Costanzo Palminondi	Francisco Girolametti
Giovanni Cristoforo	Guiseppe Laviola
Calisto Cannelli	Sebastiano Iannacone
Domenico Manzi	Gino Petroni
Fiore Baldi	Orlando Santarelli
Adamo Fornaciari	Orazio Santini

Secondo Servadio

In 1926 the Society built a hall on Prospect Street, which was opened for the first time, January 29th, 1927. The present officers are: President, Mario Verna; Vice-president, Giardini Gaetano; Recording Secretary, Guerrino Zandri; Financial Secretary, Marino Mancini; Treasurer, Guglielmo Zandri; Fiscale, Alessandro Serfilippi; Trustees, Ernesto Brunetti, Ernesto Conti, Nazzareno Bellagamba.

The association has between seventy and seventy-five members.

The Ridgefield Grange No. 165, Patrons of Husbandry, was organized December 21st, 1906, by the State Organizer, Frank E. Blakeman of Oronoque, Connecticut. The charter members were Mr. and Mrs. Arthur W. Northrop, Mr. and Mrs. Albert C. Innis, Miss Edna Innis, Mr. and Mrs. Caro H. Northrop, A. Reed Northrop, John Brophy, David W. Workman, Clifford A. Seymour, Mr. and Mrs. Elijah Light, Howard E. Light, Arthur H. Thomas, Frederick D. Thomas, George L. Rockwell, Mr. and Mrs. Charles F. Hoyt, Mr. and Mrs. Mortimer C. Keeler, S. Claude O'Connor, Miss Kathleen A. O'Connor.

The first officers were as follows: Master, Albert C. Innis; Overseer, Mortimer C. Keeler; Lecturer, Mrs. Albert C. Innis; Steward, Frederick D. Thomas; Assistant Steward, David W. Workman; Chaplain, Caro H. Northrop; Treasurer, Arthur H. Thomas; Secretary, Arthur W. Northrop; Gate Keeper, Clifford A. Seymour; Ceres, Mrs. Arthur W. Northrop; Pomona, Miss Edna Innis;

Flora, Mrs. Caro H. Northrop; Lady Assistant Steward, Miss Kathleen O'Connor; Executive Committee, John Brophy, Charles F. Hoyt, S. Claude O'Connor.

The officers were installed by Mr. Edwin B. Adams, a past master of New Canaan Grange, assisted by Mrs. Adams.

The Grange has grown and prospered, and at the present writing has about one hundred and eighty members.

The various labor unions of the state and country have local branches in Ridgefield.

Following the great fire in Ridgefield, steps were taken at once to bring about the organization of a Fire Department. It was over a year before plans were perfected. On February 10th, 1897, a number of citizens, who had previously signed an agreement to form such an organization, met in the town hall for this purpose. Charles S. Nash was elected Chief, Frederick B. Platt, Assistant Chief and George L. Rockwell, Secretary.

Immediately after the election of the department officials, the citizens separated into two bodies and organized The Caudatowa Hook and Ladder Company and the P. C. Lounsbury Engine Company.

In 1901 The Ridgefield Hose Company was organized. The Fire House was built in 1908; before which time, the machines were kept in the basement of the Town Hall.

The following have served as Chiefs: Charles S. Nash, George I. Abbott, Michael McGlynn, George H. Becker, Charles D. Crouchley, Frank I. Gilbert, J. Ebert Anderson, Roy W. Davis and Ellsworth F. Brown. The Department is recognized as one of the most efficient volunteer fire departments in the state of Connecticut.

CHAPTER XXXI
ASSOCIATIONS AND REMINISCENCES
THE AMERICAN FLAG COMPANY

"And the Star Spangled Banner in triumph shall wave
O'er the land of the free, and the home of the brave."

In many of the homes in Ridgefield may be seen a quaint picture representing the village street as it was in 1853. The original picture was drawn by Charles Kelsey, an artist, who was visiting Ridgefield at that time. While here, he stayed at the famous Resseguie Tavern. The artist chose as his perspective, a place on East Ridge, south of the present Governor Street. The picture is very interesting, as it records the lay of the village at that day, and is the only topographical view of Ridgefield of the early 1850's. It will be observed in this picture that the present road to the station is a lane. On the corner, may be seen the well-known home of the Smith family, the famous tavern of Landlord Smith. In the rear of the tavern will be observed the old Cider Mill. This was the style known as the tread-mill, operated with a horse and pole. This mill was handy, and the boys were always there in goodly number to suck sweet cider through straws, as it came fresh from the press into the vats. To the north, is the Thomas Rockwell place, now the Elms, with the Colonel Bradley place diagonally opposite.

The Methodist Church and the Episcopal Church are prominent and the old Congregational Church is plainly seen farther down the village. The landscape east of the street shows the fields, trees and the lanes running from the Main Street. The present Market Street is one of these lanes. In the fields may be seen cattle feeding. The

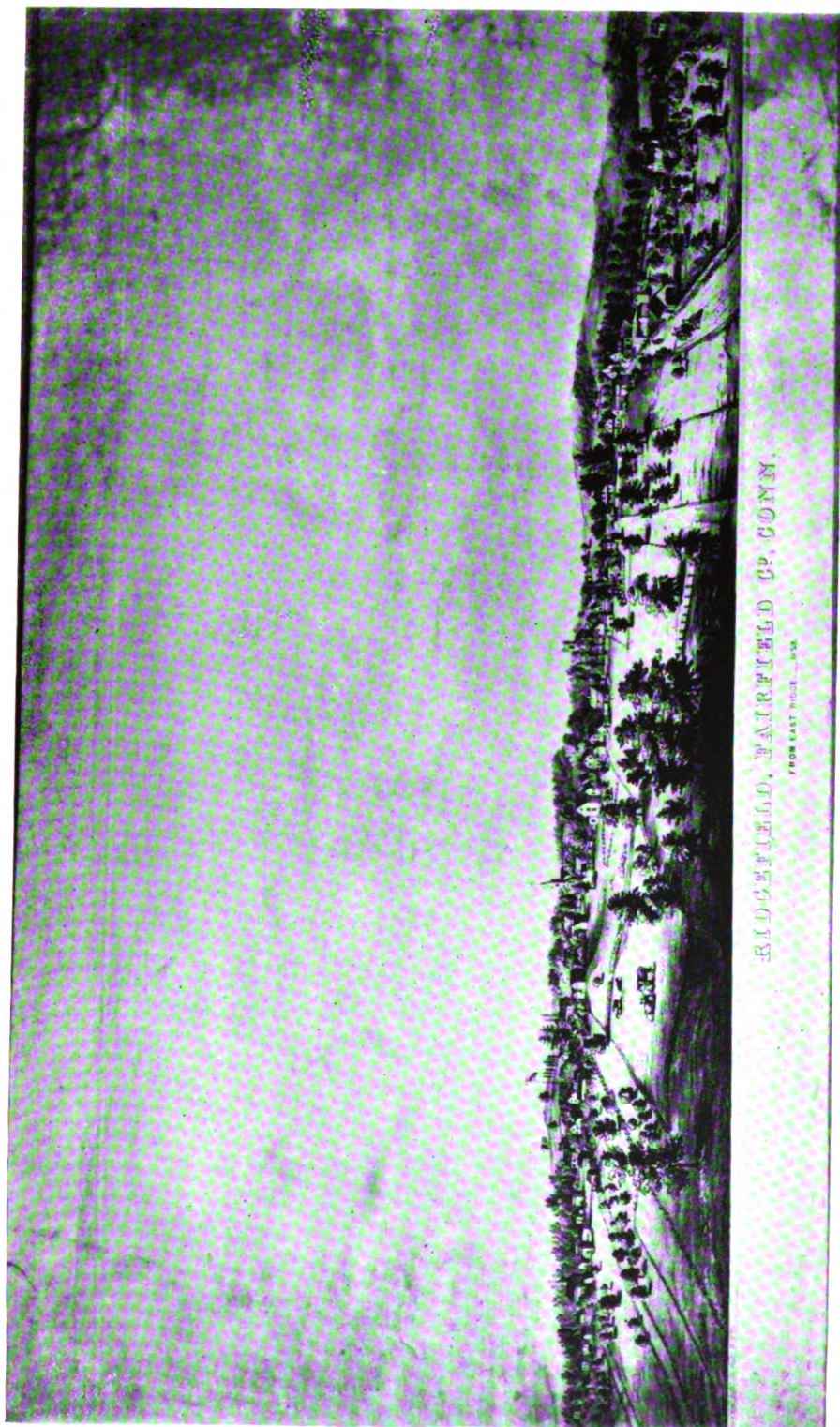
Main Street is the same old shady, delightful thoroughfare as now. What particularly attracts attention in the picture is a flag flying above the trees opposite the present Market Street. The history of this flag is very interesting.

On July 5th, 1851, the American Flag Company of Ridgefield was formed. The moving spirits in this organization were evidently Captain Aaron G. Higgins and Judson Hawley. Captain Higgins was uncle to the late Sereno S. Hurlbutt, and for years he followed the sea, being a ship's carpenter, under Captain Waterman of the *Sea Witch*. He brought many strange and wonderful things from China, Europe, South America and other foreign ports to his friends in Ridgefield, where he always spent his time between voyages. For years a painting of the *Sea Witch* adorned the walls in the Hurlbutt home. The *Sea Witch* was a rakish looking vessel, a full-rigged schooner, and Captain Higgins engaged an artist in France to paint this picture. Rheumatism troubled the Captain in his latter days, and he was obliged to give up his life on the sea and so he settled down to a snug berth in Ridgefield. He had a little store which was afterwards the Hurlbutt meat market, whence comes the name Market Street. This store was north of the present residence of Mrs. W. H. Allee, and a little back from Main Street. The following is a copy of the document of the American Flag Company:

“ Ridgefield, July 5th, 1851.

“ The following is a list of members of the American Flag Company and a true copy of the subscription.

“ We, the subscribers agree to pay to L. H. Bailey the sum annexed to our respective names for the purpose of defraying the expense of a National Flag, said flag to be owned by the subscribers in proportion to the amount subscribed by each person, and said flag to be displayed only when the majority of owners shall consent.



RIDGEFIELD IN 1853 FROM EAST RIDGE,
sketched by Charles Kelsey

DR.

Cash to Judson Hawley for flag	11.25
" to Hawley & Bailey for rope,	1.38
" to Aaron Higgins for mast head	8.00
" to Morton and others,	3.00
" to Brush, Olmstead & Co., bill	5.00

\$28.63

CR.

J. I. King	\$3.00
C. C. King,	2.00
W. Hawley,	3.00
Henry Smith, 2nd	3.00
Platt Brush,	3.00
George Keeler,	2.00
Aaron Higgins,	3.00
S. S. Hurlbutt,	2.00
F. A. Rockwell,	2.00
D. Hurlbutt,	2.00
H. K. Scott,	2.00
L. H. Bailey,	2.00
John R. Sherwood,	1.00
Judson Hawley	3.00

\$33.00

Bal. in S. S. Hurlbutt's hands
Sept. 1, 1851

\$ 4.37 "

Of this number Col. H. K. Scott was the survivor; Charles Clark King, or as he signed the above articles, C. C. King, was the first to pass away, his death occurring in 1854. The article of agreement was written by Judson Hawley. The other subscribers were among the leading men of the town, and a description of many of them is given in other pages of this book. Platt Brush was a member of the firm of Brush, Olmstead and Company. William Hawley was a partner of Lewis H. Bailey and the father of the late Mrs. David S. Egleston. Henry Smith, 2nd, the father of the late Miss Jennie Smith, is so well remembered by many; tall and courteous, kind, and one of the most altruistic men of Ridgefield. Joshua I.

King, brother to Charles; David Hurlbutt, the father of Sereno, are well known. George Keeler was the village harness maker, and his little shop stood between his house, the present residence of Mrs. Wallace T. Jones, and Cass Gilbert. John R. Sherwood lived on Catoonah Street. He was called "Swamp Angel" to distinguish him from "Bull John" or "Mountain John" who lived on West Mountain. The flag-pole as seen in the picture was erected in the top of a large sycamore tree, in front of the home of Francis A. Rockwell.

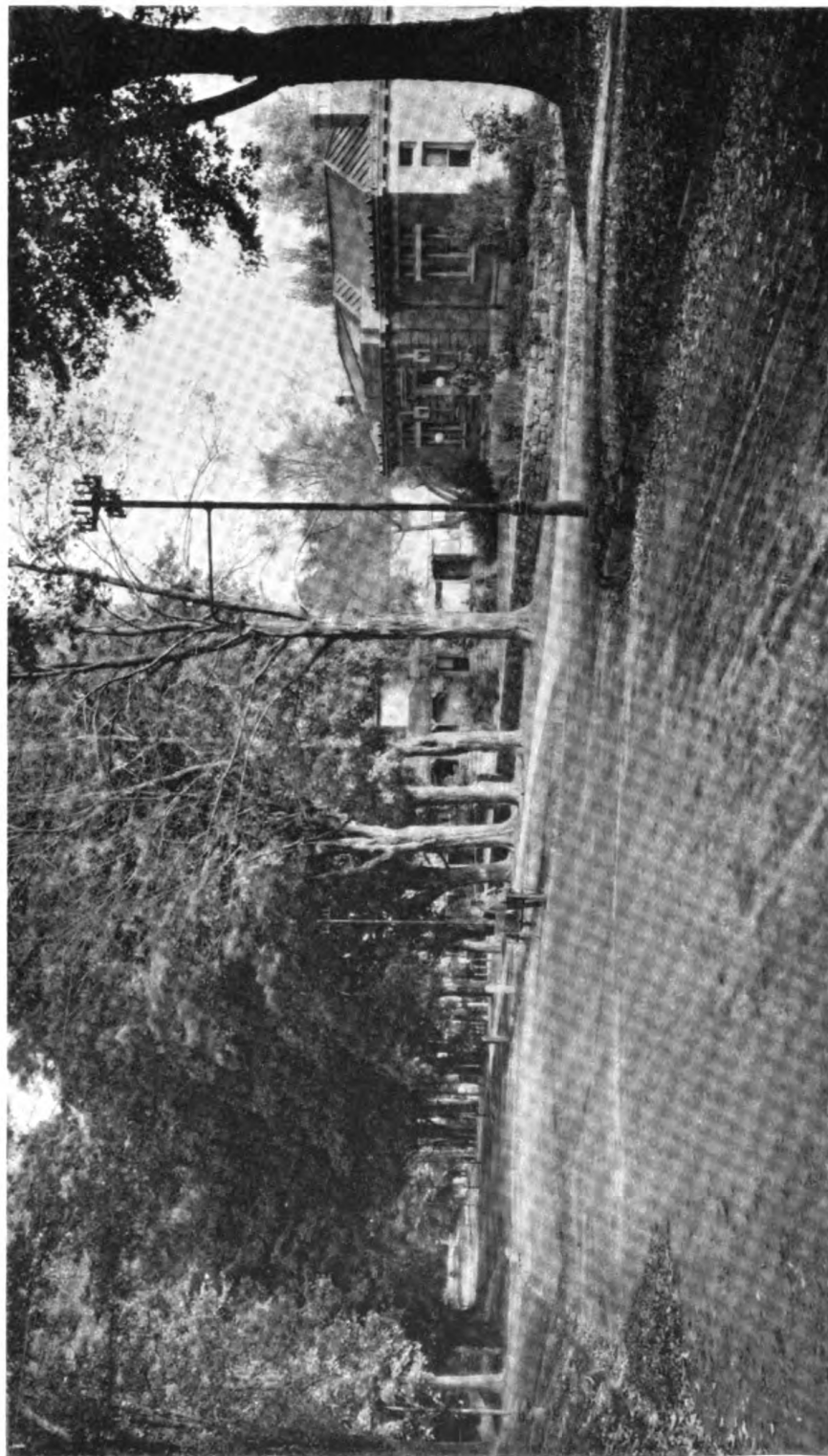
Captain Higgins superintended the work of the erection of the pole and the rigging of the halyards, and the flag, until recently remaining in possession of the Hurlbutt family, floated to the breezes to the joy and pride of its owners, and the admiration of the entire community.

The flag measured fourteen feet by ten. The pole became shaky after awhile, and was taken down. It was again erected on the Hurlbutt market, and when the latter was moved back and incorporated into a dwelling, the flag-pole was placed upon the barn. The flag was draped in honor of President McKinley, and was displayed by the late Frank S. Hurlbutt, in the window of his store, on the day of the funeral of the lamented President.

It was loaned Old Home Week, July, 1914, for decorating a window, and disappeared after the event, and this interesting relic was thus unfortunately lost to the Hurlbutt family.

THE RIDGEFIELD BAND

The Ridgefield Band is one of the oldest institutions in the town. It was first organized in 1838, and one band after another, has continued down from that time. A description of the old band and their instrumentation may be interesting. The following are the members: William Grumman, Leader, E^b clarinet; William M. Jones, Jr., Lewis H. Bailey, William Smith and George Hobby, B^b



MAIN STREET LOOKING NORTH FROM THE LIBRARY CORNER,
1905.

clarinets; William D. Jones, Leander Brown and Jeremiah Olmstead, bugles; Sereno S. Hurlbutt, Martin E. Clark and Thaddeus Hoyt, Four-crook trumpets; Harry Northrop and George Hovey, French horns; Harry Hawley, John Borden, William Lee, trombones; Joel Rockwell, bass drum, and Silas Brown, snare drum. William W. Seymour, or, as he was called "Doctor Bill," played the ophicleide, which corresponds to the bass horn of the present day. Richard Dunning of Wilton, who was a composer and played the bugle, instructed this band. They used to have some pretty lively times and visited many places, among them, North Salem, Lake Mahopac, Stamford, Norwalk and New Canaan.

In 1848 the band arranged a minstrel show. Joshua I. King, who was very much interested in the band, paid for their outfit. Andrew Smith and Joel L. Rockwell were the end men. John Borden and Alfred Rich were the dancers. Douglas Morgan, or "Dug" as he was called, played the triangle, and John Bouton manipulated the bones. They played to a crowded house.

In the 50's, the band underwent some changes. George Grumman was the leader and played a cornet. Sereno S. Hurlbutt played a French horn, John D. Hurlbutt an Eb cornet. Dwight Stent, the tinsmith, and James Roche were also cornetists. Samuel S. Phelan played a trombone, and Alfred Rich alto, Joel L. Rockwell still played bass drum and Fred L. Smith bass.

Fred L. Smith was the best player in the state. In 1861 the band furnished seven members to the army, who enlisted as musicians. James Roche, William Jones, who played baritone, and Fred L. Smith, bass, enlisted in the First Regiment, Sickles' Brigade, which was afterwards the Seventieth New York. Alfred Rich, Samuel Phelan, Dwight Stent and William Merritt enlisted in the Seventeenth Regiment; Benjamin Brinckerhoff, who played the bass drum, also went to war.

In 1874, the band was re-organized again under the leadership of Aaron G. H. Hurlbutt who was a great musician. The members were Aaron Hurlbutt, Isaac D. S. Hurlbutt, Clarence G. Mead, Richard W. Keeler, Edward Phelan, cornets; Edward L. Smith and William Smith, altos; Rufus Smith, Ebenezer A. Hoyt and Robert Kendall, tenors; Albert Benjamin, baritone; Fred L. Smith, bass; Janeway Olmstead, snare drum and Rufus Fancher, bass drum. Cyrus M. Benjamin and Lyman Whitlock also played the bass drum in this band.

The Ridgefield band whose picture appears on the opposite page was organized in 1901, and was active for over twenty years. Its services were in great demand in the vicinity of Ridgefield, even to being called to New York City on several occasions. During the World War, it was very active and gave its services freely and frequently.

THE "FORTY-NINERS" FROM RIDGEFIELD

When the report spread through the country in 1848 that gold had been discovered in California, Ridgefield like many other towns in the East, was deeply stirred by the news.

Visions of great wealth, speedily and easily acquired were presented to the people, provided they could reach the scene of operations. The "Gold Fever" attacked five of the citizens of Ridgefield to such a degree that they made the long and perilous journey to the new El Dorado. These five were Peter P. Cornen, Henry I. Beers, Stephen Fry, Leander Brown and Tredwell Avery.

Peter P. Cornen was the first to set out. At that time he was engaged in a mercantile business in New York City. Henry I. Beers, his brother-in-law, was his clerk. Mr. Cornen caught the Gold Fever early and left New York in the latter part of 1848. The following June Mr. Beers received word to come out. He closed out the New York



THE RIDGEFIELD BAND—1906.

Front row, (left to right)	Roy W. Davis	Samuel E. Nicholas	Samuel S. Denton	Lester R. Russell
Aldo Casagrande	Louis A. Abbott	W. Reginald Humphrys		
Walter S. Beditent				
Center,	George L. Rockwell	Archibald V. Davis (bass drum)		
	James M. Fulton, Bandmaster	Frank R. Olmstead		
Second Row,	George H. Whitlock	John M. Whitlock	Enrico Rossini	Arthur G. Seymour
Clarence G. Knapp	Harold E. Finch (trombone)	(cymbals)	(clarinets)	
Rear,	William H. Stevens	Percy M. Bouton	Ezzechiele Gianfranchesi	
	B. Percival Humphrys	(B flat bass)		



HURLBUTT MARKET,
and residence of Sereno S. Hurlbutt Corner of Market Street. (Sereno S. Hurlbutt is standing against the fence, his son Frank, and Albert
Burr of Wilton in front of the market.)

business which was largely devoted to ship chandlery, and left on November 13, 1849.

He sailed for Panama, crossed the Isthmus, which in those days was crossed on mule back, and in boats on the Chagres River. He was obliged to wait thirty-three days at Panama for the steamer Panama, which was on its way from New York to San Francisco and touched at this port. When he arrived at San Francisco, he had twelve oranges which he sold at one dollar each.

With an old New York friend, George D. Dornin, he opened a restaurant, which they called "The City Hall Lunch." They charged twenty-five cents for one boiled egg; coffee, twenty-five cents a cup; a quarter of a pie, twenty-five cents; beef-steak, fifty cents to a dollar and a half. Mr. Beers was practically ruined financially by the great San Francisco fire in 1851.

In company with Washington Bartlett, who was afterwards Governor of California, he published a newspaper called the "True Californian." In 1852 he came East, married Miss Harriet A. Forbes of Towanda, Pennsylvania, and with his bride returned to California. He again took up his residence in San Francisco, where the following year, our fellow townsman, Frank I. Beers, was born.

Stephen Fry and Tredwell Avery made the trip together. They also went by way of the Isthmus. Mr. Fry lived in Farmingville district. He was a carpenter and builder and carried along with him an entire set of carpenter's tools. He experienced a great misfortune while crossing the Isthmus. During the night, as he slept by the roadside, some one stole nearly all his tools, leaving him barely a half dozen.

Tredwell Avery lived on West Mountain. He was a brother-in-law of Stephen Fry and Peter P. Cornen, the three having married daughters of Cyrus Beers. Mr. Avery was a member of the Connecticut 1st Heavy Artillery during the Civil War.

Leander Brown, son of Solomon Brown of Farmingville, had a tempestuous trip on his voyage to California. At the time of the excitement, Mr. Brown was employed by Brooks Brothers, the clothiers, of New York City. Sixteen young men, of which number Brown was one, formed an association called the Harriet Newell Association. It was named from the bark in which they sailed. The association was organized by these young men to fit out a vessel with supplies of all kinds which they agreed to transport to Sacramento City, where they would open up a store for the sale of their merchandise. The joists, windows, doors and all the parts of the building were fitted before they sailed, and carried with them. Leander Brown kept a diary of the trip from which the information here given was obtained.

Richard M. Jessup was president of the association. They left New York January 10, 1849. Nearly everyone of the party suffered severely from sea sickness. Besides the association and crew, there were eight passengers. Among their goods was a quantity of cider, which was probably made in Ridgefield. They tested its qualities from time to time, but one day as they were passing through the warm regions near the equator, upon examination, they found that every bottle had burst. They crossed the equator February 22nd. A stop was made at Rio Janeiro, where they arrived March 9th and remained until March 17th. After passing many stormy days, they rounded Cape Horn on April 15th, and on May 11th, they passed the Island of Juan Fernandez, but were unable to see its shores.

Callao, in Peru, was the second stop made. They arrived here May 27th. A most interesting visit was made to Lima, six miles distant. This trip was made in stages. They left Callao May 30th, at seven P. M. As they were getting under way, a boat from an English Man o' War pulled up to them and demanded who they were and the reply being satisfactory, they were unmolested. They ex-

pected to reach San Francisco by July 4th, but were disappointed. The National Holiday was passed upon the ocean and celebrated in a proper manner. A great dinner was served on board ship. However, on July 24th, they entered the Golden Gate, and on August 11th, after many trials, they arrived at Sacramento City. Sacramento City is at the head of tide-water of the Sacramento River, and they sailed the entire distance. In some places the river is so narrow that the spars on the masts touched the spreading limbs of the trees on shore.

Leander Brown was destined never to see his New England home again. On December 9th he died of a fever, after a lingering illness. The association of which he was a member sent a set of resolutions of condolence to his family, and also to the Stamford Advocate. A number of the young men in the association were from Stamford. Leander Brown passed away in his twenty-sixth years. A monument was erected over his grave in California. In the Ridgefield Cemetery is also a stone, and the following is inscribed thereon:

LEANDER
Son of
Solomon and Sally
BROWN
DIED AT SACRAMENTO CITY
CALIFORNIA
DEC. 9, 1849
Æ T. 25 YRS, 4 M'S & 20 D'S.

FAREWELL, LEANDER, HOPE SHALL REAR
AN ALTAR, AT THY TOMB
AND MEMORY LIKE THE EVERGREEN
SHALL EVER, EVER BLOOM.
FAR FROM HIS NATIVE HILLS HIS DUST
IN EARTH'S GREEN BOSOM LIES,
YET GOD THE PRECIOUS CHARGE DOTH GUARD
TILL HE SHALL BID IT RISE

Elias G. Hoyt was another citizen of Ridgefield who made the trip to the gold mines. Although he was not a forty-niner, he made the trip soon after gold was discovered. Mr. Hoyt made the journey across the Rocky Mountains, and returned by the same route. He walked over the mountains and through the passes in the depths of winter. Mr. Hoyt's brother-in-law, Sylvester Lessey of New Fairfield, perished on the journey. He was buried in a hollow tree somewhere in the Rocky Mountains.

THE RIDGEFIELD FAIR AND CATTLE SHOW

The Ridgefield Fair was in its day a flourishing and popular institution. The first Fair was held in 1858, in the old Town Hall and was a one day institution. The second fair was held in the lot on the corner of Gilbert and Main Streets, the site of the Reed residence. Subsequently, it was held on the lot in the hollow on the southerly side of Governor Street; but for the rest of its existence a suitable place was provided at the lower end of the village on the Wilton Road, now occupied by Dr. Newton M. Shaffer.

One year there were one hundred and twelve yoke of oxen exhibited at the Ridgefield Fair. It seems almost impossible to realize at the present time that such a number could have been assembled. When lined up for the cattle parade, these yoke of oxen extended from a point on Main Street between the present homes of Lewis H. Losee and Mrs. Anson Phelps Stokes to the entrance of the fairgrounds opposite Olmsted Lane. Great interest was taken by the farmers in this annual event and there were exhibitions of fruits, flowers, vegetables, cattle, poultry, and home-made articles of all descriptions. An old premium list informs us that there were thirty-one classes, as follows: field crops, grain and grass seed; vegetables; fruit; floriculture, bread, dairy, honey, preserved fruit and pickles; cakes; wines; ladies' industrials; fine arts, musical instruments;



POSTER OF THE RIDGEFIELD FAIR.

domestic manufacture; farming utensils; poultry; sheep; swine; exhibition of oxen; draught oxen; working oxen and steers; three year old and under; milch cows and heifers; thoroughbred stock; fattened cattle; stallions; colts, family horses; road horses; trotting purse \$40.00 over three minutes; trotting purse \$75.00 over 2.40; trotting purse \$40.00 over 2.50; trotting purse \$100.00 over 2.30. For a flock of not less than ten sheep \$4.00 was paid as a premium. For the thoroughbred stock, prizes were offered for Durham, Devon, Ayrshire and Alderney cattle. The committees in each class were usually five, and were generally composed of farmers, and farmers' wives and daughters from Ridgefield and the surrounding towns.

One of the interesting attractions shown at the Fair in the 70's was an automobile. It was invented by Simon Ingersoll of Stamford,* who also invented the rock steam-

*In 1871, a plain mechanic, Simon Ingersoll, came to New York with models of some of his inventions. Mr. Ingersoll had a device, for instance, with which he could throw a line through a second-story window in case of fire, by means of a sort of pistol. He had several models of inventions of this sort, which he carried about with him. One day he was riding in a horse car, and he was explaining one of these models to a man who sat beside him. On an opposite seat there sat John D. Minor, a prominent contractor who was interested in inventing a rock drill, and who listened to the man talking of his new patented device. When Mr. Ingersoll got through, Mr. Minor inquired:

"Why don't you invent something worth while? For instance, why don't you contrive a rock drill operated by steam? I have a big contract here in New York and work in rock. You can readily see that drilling could be done much better by steam than by hand."

"I can do it. I'll go right to work—but I haven't much money," replied Ingersoll.

"How much money do you want?"

Ingersoll told him that it might take as much as fifty dollars to make a model. Minor, impressed by the evident ability of the stranger, and his honesty of countenance, handed over the fifty dollars to him and giving him his card, told him to go ahead. Mr. Ingersoll built the drill and also went back to the contractor for several times fifty dollars. Finally the drill was finished and taken to Mr. Minor's works. It worked a short time and broke the fronthead. It was then taken to Sergeant & Cullingworth's shop, and they were asked to make repairs. Mr. Sergeant, who was of a very inventive turn of mind himself, was in the shop when the repairing was being done, and asked about the drill, and immediately said, "The fronthead should not be a part of the cylinder. If one of these frontheads breaks, it should not destroy the cylinder."

And he took a saw and sawed the front head away from the cylinder

(Continued on Page 360)

drill. The automobile may be described as being a large box set on small wheels, narrow gauge, and steam was the motive power. The boiler was in the box and fed from behind. Mr. Ingersoll engaged George P. Gregory of Titicus to operate the automobile in our town. The machine was driven up and down Main Street, exciting much curiosity and wonder. At the Fair Grounds, it was speeded around the track.

For many years, Edward H. Smith was president of the Ridgefield Fair Association. In 1876, one of the greatest campaign meetings in Ridgefield was held in the Fair Building, at which meeting Henry C. Robinson, Samuel Fessenden and Cyrus Northrop addressed the assembly.

After 1881, the fair was given up, and the exhibition building taken down. The lumber was used in the construction of the present Sperry Garage on Catoonah Street. It is unfortunate that the Ridgefield fair was discontinued. Exhibitions of a similar nature have since been very popular and largely attended.

THE FIRE OF 1895

The great fire in Ridgefield occurred on Sunday evening, December 8th, 1895. The fire was first discovered about nine o'clock in Gage's Block, occupied then by D. Frank Bedient and Howard E. Mead under the partnership of Bedient and Mead. Louis Joffe and Joseph Hartmann discovered the smoke and ran to Catoonah Street, shouting the alarm of fire. They were joined by Dr. Willis E. Weed, who notified Mr. Bedient. The latter imme-

on the pattern. Mr. Ingersoll came in while this was being done.

"Mr. Sergeant, what are you doing?"

"I am making this thing practical."

Mr. Ingersoll retorted: "That is my drill, not yours."

"But you don't know anything about machinery, and I do," argued Sergeant. Mr. Sergeant finally induced Mr. J. F. deNavarro to buy Mr. Ingersoll out, and the work of Ingersoll and the rock drill was taken up and carried to a successful conclusion with a machine with which the whole world is now familiar. This invention by Simon Ingersoll was the beginning of the present Ingersoll Rand Company, of which our fellow townsman, George Doubleday, is president.



MAIN STREET THE MORNING AFTER THE FIRE,
December 9th, 1895.

diately hastened to his store and tried to enter the burning building by the front door, but was driven back by the smoke and intense heat. James Halpin, John Quinlan, George E. Lane and others, entered the building by the side door, but their efforts to check the rapid spread of the fire were useless. Mr. Bedient and Mr. Hartmann secured a number of ladders from under the front porch of the store, and with some pails, a bucket brigade was formed; but the fire had made such headway that an attempt to extinguish it in this manner was absolutely of no avail.

Meanwhile, the church bells sounded the alarm, and hundreds of people assembled, helpless in their efforts to stop the conflagration. The fire gained rapid headway and from Bedient's block, spread north to the Western Union Telegraph Company's office and Barhite and Steven's Grocery Store. In the rear of the Gage Block on Bailey Avenue the plumbing shop of Peter McGlynn was soon in flames, and entirely consumed. Soon after eleven o'clock, the Town Hall was on fire, and from that time until half past two in the morning, (when the fire was actually under control), it seemed as though the entire center of the village was destined to be consumed.

In the fire's course down the street, the Masonic Building, in which was the office of the Ridgefield Press, the barber shop of Elias S. Reynolds, the upper floor being the lodge room of the Masons and Odd Fellows, was soon burning beyond control. Everything possible was removed from this building. From the Press office were taken the desk, books, some of the newspaper files, the mailing list, a few cases of type and the chair in which Horace Greeley sat at a political convention and which is still a cherished possession of the Press.

The livery stable of Hiram K. Scott, Jr., on Bailey Avenue caught fire several times, but with hard work the building was saved. To the south of the Masonic Building was the residence of Edwin W. Hibbart, which was

the next to go, and beyond that the block occupied by Hibbart and Sherwood, Willis S. Gilbert and the central office of the Southern New England Telephone Company on the first floor, and Louis Joffe and Conrad Rockelein upstairs. These buildings were soon on fire and beyond control. The Scott Block was the next to follow. Colonel Hiram K. Scott was the town clerk and probate judge and his office was in this building, also the drug store of Harvey P. Bissell, who shortly before this time had taken up his residence in Ridgefield. This block and the house of Colonel Scott which stood in the rear of the store, were completely destroyed. All the town and probate records were saved. Mr. Bissell, who had apartments above the store, saved the bulk of his household goods. In the meantime, it had been suggested that dynamite might be used to check the path of the flames. Under the management of Ebenezer W. Keeler, dynamite was used on the burning Masonic Hall, but it failed to check the fire. The little south wing of the Scott block used as Colonel Scott's office, was torn down before the building caught fire, with the result that the fire was stopped at this point. The present Griffith block caught on fire several times and was saved by a number of citizens who formed a bucket brigade.

Danbury was called upon for assistance, and the Fire Department of that city immediately responded, and under the direction of Mayor G. Mortimer Rundle a steamer and its crew with one thousand feet of hose was loaded on a flat-car just before midnight, and came to Ridgefield by special train. It was of great assistance in stopping the progress of the flames which were threatening other buildings. The beautiful elms which lined the easterly side of Main Street in the business center were entirely destroyed.

For a distance of nearly a thousand feet buildings were constantly threatened with destruction. Among these were the Methodist parsonage and church, Henry Mead's store

which caught fire once. St. Mary's church and sheds (then located at the foot of Catoonah Street) were threatened with destruction, the sheds blazing at one time, Morris B. Whitlock's livery stable which was on fire twice, the rectory, church and barns of St. Stephen's Church, all of which caught but were discovered in time, and the dwellings on Governor Street of Leonard L. Beckwith (then occupied by Nathan L. Rockwell), Samuel Nicholas, the Ridgefield Library, and the Loder house. North of the Methodist parsonage was the building occupied by Frank S. Hurlbutt as a shoe store, and J. William Benedict as a bakery, but this building did not take fire.

The day following the fire brought many visitors to Ridgefield. General Rufus H. King came down from Albany, hoping to be of assistance to any people who might need help. He brought word that his brother, J. Howard King, would be glad to aid in any way possible. Meanwhile the merchants arranged to continue their business in other buildings. The town erected a small wooden building as a temporary Town Hall on the rear of the Town Lot, and immediately made arrangements for the erection of the present Town Hall, which was built the following year, 1896, with the assistance of several New York gentlemen who contributed a sum sufficient to erect the present imposing structure. The accompanying picture shows the section of our street as it appeared the morning after the fire.

The loss was nearly one hundred thousand dollars, which was largely covered by insurance.

The people were now thoroughly aroused to the dire need of a water system. Water was first obtained from springs in West Mountain. The first day of service was June 13th, 1900. However, in 1902, the springs became so low that there was not sufficient water to supply the town. Henry B. Anderson, a resident of the town at that time, awakened to the necessity for prompt action, gained con-

trol of the Water Company and in a short while water from Round Lake was being furnished the village. Through the energy of Mr. Anderson the village was spared from the dangerous situation with which it was threatened because of the shortage of water. An inexhaustible supply of water is now at the command of Ridgefield. Round Lake has a depth of sixty feet, and Ridgefield is fortunate in having a pure and abundant supply of water.

The Town House that was burned was built in 1876. Upon this site formerly stood the residence of Philip Bradley, and later of Miss Harriet Bradley. The town purchased the property and erected the Town Hall. The old Bradley house which stood on the site at the time of purchase was sold at auction for thirty-two dollars.

THE TITICUS FLOOD

The Titicus Flood occurred in September, 1868, caused by the bursting of the dam on New Pond. The Gilbert Brothers, Aaron B. and William H., built this dam in order to store water for their mill farther down in Titicus. People predicted that the pond would never fill up. On the day of the cataclysm, Aaron Gilbert had been called away. It was raining in torrents and a great volume of water was pouring over the dam, and William Gilbert went over to look at it, as he had some fears whether it would stand. There was a tremendous rock on the west end of the dam that the Searles Brothers, Andrew Jackson and Lyman, who built the dam, had drawn in with a team of oxen. Mr. Gilbert had just returned from an inspection of the east side of the dam, as he thought that end would go first if the dam should break. He had scarcely reached the west side, and was standing upon the above mentioned rock when he felt it *teeter* beneath him. He jumped off just in time, as the dam at that moment burst at this point, and a great torrent of water poured down the valley. The flood was four or five feet high and it went across the first

field at an angle. The few witnesses related that the column of rushing water resembled a tidal wave.

As the waters struggled through the broken dam, they fairly leapt. The flood carried away the barn of Bradley Edmond who lived in the present house of Jasper E. Walker; also David H. Valden's office which was built across the stream; cleaned out every vat in the tan-yard and deposited boards, timbers, fence rails and skins of half dressed leather across the flat beyond the road. Charles Smith, 2nd, lived in the house by the bridge, afterward the home of John D. Nash. Mrs. Smith's mother was downstairs in the basement kitchen baking bread. Her daughter called her, and she came up stairs just in time, for she had barely taken her foot from the last step before the flood carried away the stairs, as it flooded the basement. After the waters subsided, the basement was a sight. Pork, butter, potatoes, lard, were all mixed up together. A singular incident occurred. A basket of eggs was raised by the flood and floated around on top of the water. When the flood subsided, the basket was found deposited on the top stair, which had not been torn loose, and not an egg was broken. One of Mr. Smith's rubber boots was left in the cellar, and another was found down on the flat where the waters had carried it. Philip N. Smith, son of Charles, saw the flood coming and rushing out, unhitched a horse that was standing in front of the store. The horse would have been drowned had it remained at the post. The first fence beyond the Smith's was unharmed, while the second fence was completely demolished. Jacob Legrand Dauchy, who at that time lived on North Street, and was an eye witness of the flood, relates that the waters "roared like an earthquake."

THE BAILEY INN

An historical land-mark disappeared forever with the demolition of the Bailey Inn in 1919. This building served Ridgefield in many ways. Before the Civil War, it was

used as a cabinet factory by the firm of Hawley and Pickett. With the dissolution of this firm, the building was cut in two, and the southern section was moved to the grounds of Joshua I. King, the present home of Richard A. Jackson. The section that was moved was used afterwards as a candle stick and tin factory. A steam engine was installed to operate the machinery such as the heavy drop which formed or moulded the bottoms of the candle sticks and hog scrapers, and also turned the burnishing machines. This building was subsequently burned.

The northern section was for years called "Tammany Hall," as political parties were accustomed to hold meetings on the second floor, which was roomy and convenient for this purpose. It was next converted into a tenement house.

When the summer population of Ridgefield began to assume such a proportion that there were not enough places to care for them, the late Lewis H. Bailey, for whom the house was named, converted the building into a hotel.

The Desmond house in Ridgebury is one of the oldest houses in the township. The date of its erection is unknown, but it was formerly owned by Colonel Nehemiah Keeler, who sold it to Jeremiah Desmond, the father of the present Desmond family, Catherine, Jeremiah and Richard. The old house still contains the latches, hinges, old oak floors, and other furnishings of an antiquity dating about two hundred years, when it was used as a tavern. Another building now moved back and modeled into a barn stood by the road-side with entrance doors twenty-four feet wide, through which the stage coach drove. In the old part of the building may be seen at the present writing, the old staples where wires were strung to hold draperies, thus dividing the room into four separate compartments. These rooms were used for guests who were obliged to leave early in the morning.

THE RIDGEFIELD PRESS

In 1875, a newspaper was established in Ridgefield to the great joy and satisfaction of the people. This paper was Baxter's Monthly, founded, edited and published by the late D. Crosby Baxter. The first edition was on January 13th, 1875. After two or three monthly editions, the paper came out weekly under a new name, — The Ridgefield Press. For over fifty-two years this paper has been published weekly in our village. The paper has had several editors, among them William W. Whiting; Edgar C. Bross; Livingston Russell; William A. White; S. Claude O'Connor; David W. Workman, the present editor.

The following notice was sent out to the public in March, 1875:

TO OUR PATRONS.

The Ridgefield Press

TO BE A WEEKLY.

*The Cheapest Advertising Medium
in Fairfield County.*

On and after April 1st we propose to issue our paper weekly, providing we can get fifty or more subscribers, and a like advance in advertising, and therefore ask our friends and patrons to give us all the encouragement possible in that line. We would have attempted this before, but lack of patronage forbade. Our advertising rates will be very reasonable, and we hope to meet with success.

Subscription Price.....\$1.25.

Respectfully,
RIDGEFIELD PRESS.

In 1908 the town celebrated the two hundredth anniversary of its settlement. Three days were given over to the celebration, beginning on Sunday, July 5th, 1908. On that day the various churches of the town held exercises appropriate to the occasion. Other exercises were held in the Town Hall. Many families were united, relatives returning to visit Ridgefield who had not been here for many, many years. Honorable William O. Seymour was Chairman and Colonel Hiram K. Scott, Vice-Chairman of the celebration, and they were assisted in the successful conclusion of the program by the citizens of the town; men, women and children, who turned out and made the three days a grand festal occasion.

CHAPTER XXXII

SCHOOLS AND LIBRARIES

Upon the frail and humble foundation of the New England country school have been built some of the mighty characters that have ruled the destinies of world-wide enterprises: learned men to whose word the nation has lent its ear: statesmen who have represented every commonwealth in the Union, master spirits in guiding our country through the troublous times of war and in solving the intricate problems that so often come in times of peace.

Much that is beautiful and noble in Ridgefield's history was inspired in her little one-room school houses.

There our famous *litterateur*, Peter Parley, learned to love letters; from there Cyrus Northrop carried inspirations of learning to thousands in the pioneer Northwest. The two Lounsbury brothers, George and Phineas, Governors of Connecticut, laid the foundation of their success in the little red school house in Farmingville. William O. Seymour, D. Smith Sholes, Benjamin K. Northrop, John Brophy, Ebenezer W. Keeler and Edward H. Smith, pillars in the civic life of Ridgefield, were proud of the knowledge they first acquired in the little buildings of learning.

The appreciation of education was manifested by our early settlers in the sacrifices they made to maintain select schools. The first school in Ridgefield was undoubtedly kept in the same building in which were held church services and town meetings. There is no question that our forefathers established classes for learning co-incident with the settling of the town.

In 1721 the following resolution was passed at a Town Meeting:

"It was voted that eight pounds shall be raised for ye support of a school."

This original building was used for town meetings, church services and as a meeting house until 1726, and stood on the village green or churchyard. In 1726 a vote was passed in Town Meeting to "repair the schoolhouse."

In 1742 the town released the inhabitants of the second parish or Ridgebury from paying a school tax, provided they should maintain a school in their section of the town for at least six months each year. At this time, 1742, it appears that there was but one school house in the town and that stood near the head of Main Street north of the present home of Dr. R. W. Lowe. It stood, in fact, practically upon the same spot as the old store of which a description is given elsewhere. Classes were still being conducted also in the town house on the green.

In 1743, the first town house was built and the school was moved into that, and the following year the original building was sold at auction, a town meeting held on September 7th, 1744, directing that "What is remaining of the old school house be sold at a vendue on Tuesday September, 18th."

On December 22nd, 1741, it was voted that "Each scholar shall find a third part of a Cord of Good Sound Wood, and there shall be allowed after ye rate of 18 shillings a Cord out of ye scholars rate."

A singular meeting was held in the early days called "A sheep meeting." On December 24th, 1742, such a meeting was held in Ridgefield at which it was voted "that the money coming for the hire of the sheep last year shall be given as a Bounty to help maintain the Town School forever, and when the money is gathered it shall be delivered to the committee that is appointed to take care of the bounty money given by the Government to support ye School, and ordered by the above said vote to let out the said money as ye money is that comes from

the government, and to improve the use thereof to pay it towards ye maintenance of said town school forever. Test. Timothy Keeler, Clerk."

Until about the year 1760, there were a considerable number of sheep owned by the town. Regularly twice a week these were let to the highest bidder to lay in his ploughland during the night, which method was used toward enriching the land. Reverend Samuel Goodrich, in writing of the town in 1800, tells us there were about two thousand sheep in Ridgefield at that time.

In 1742 Bennett's Farms and Limestone were freed from the town school tax, only it was provided that this arrangement should be in force "so long as they keep up a good sufficient woman school among them."

In 1760 there were six schools in town. The first school house erected in Titicus District was probably in 1760 or 1761. The children from this district attended the school at the upper end of the village street. In 1784 the First Society was divided into five school districts and two "half districts."

The Bennett's Farms and West Lane school houses are the oldest buildings of this character in town. The West Lane School house is the more prominent of the two. It remains as one of the land marks handed down to us from the colonial days of old Ridgefield. This little red school house picturesquely set in the triangle at the convergence of four roads, shaded by ancient maples, has sent forth many scholars who have distinguished themselves in the world. Some of these have already been mentioned. The interior of this building was similar to others in town. Around and against the wall was a continuous writing and studying desk, before which was a board seat with no back. Beneath the desk was a place for books and slates. In the center of the older buildings were slab seats upon which the children sat when reciting. The old building in Peter Parley's time is described as being "unpainted, made of

rough boards and a stone chimney, so big that the rain and snow fell upon the hearth. Green wood was burned in the fire-place and it was difficult at times to keep the building warm. A very old chestnut tree stood at the western angle, and in those days was the only shade."

James Seymour, who lived south of the school, at one time kept a blacksmith shop upon the eastern end of the triangle. He owned and occupied the same place as the late John Brophy.

The Independent School House was one of the principal school houses of the town in its day. For thirty years or more Samuel Stebbins taught this school. The school building was located in the yard of the late Governor Phineas C. Lounsbury, a little south of the residence and near the street. It was built in 1786 and at that time a frame had been set up, so that the town voted to give the proprietors the old town house toward finishing the school house, "provided the Proprietors of said school house fully vest the Town and the first society with the privilege of holding all their necessary Town Proprietors, First Society and Freemans Meetings therein and that they (the proprietors of said school house) will finish and Compleat said School House and make it Convenient by seating ye same."

Reverend Mr. Goodrich tells us that there were ten school houses in the town in 1799 and four hundred and thirty-three scholars. This number of scholars include only those in the First Society. There were probably at least seventy-five in Ridgebury.

The town is divided at the present time into fourteen school districts. This division has practically been the same for seventy-five years. Ridgebury, in the Second Society has two districts, number thirteen for North Ridgebury and number fourteen for South Ridgebury. Another district was formerly number thirteen. Number thirteen district was instituted about 1849 in the upper portion of



LITTLE RED SCHOOL HOUSE, FARMINGVILLE,
erected about 1840.



FARMINGVILLE SCHOOL HOUSE,
presented to town of Ridgefield by Governor George E. Lounsbury.

Scotland District, the school house standing near the very large rock shaded now by a grand old elm, on the easterly side of the road opposite the present farmhouse of the Ridgefield School.

At this time, it may be well to state that the boundary line between the First and Second Societies was not the natural boundary line known as the Aspen Ledges. (In the earlier deeds this is also called Asproom Ledges.) From old residents the author has been told that the line ran in a northeasterly direction crossing the North Salem Road near the little pond on the outlet of Lake Mamasasco, described more particularly at the present time as just south of the house of Miss Ann S. Richardson, crossing the ledges and in a straight line running to the town line of Danbury west of Sugar Hollow, meeting the Danbury line in the mountains north of the residence of Colonel L. D. Conley.

The present school districts are as follows:

District No. 1	Scotland	District No. 8	Whipstick
" " 2	Bennett's Farms	" " 9	Flat Rock
" " 3	Limestone	" " 10	Branchville
" " 4	Titicus	" " 11	Florida*
" " 5	West Mountain	" " 12	Farmingville
" " 6	Center	" " 13	North Ridgebury†
" " 7	West Lane	" " 14	South Ridgebury

*Florida District is mentioned in the early records of Ridgefield. The author has endeavored to ascertain why this district was thus named, but for forty years no information as to the nomenclature of this portion of our Town has been forthcoming. Old residents, whose grandparents lived in Florida before the Revolution, have been unable to shed any light upon the matter, and so the reasons for this district being called Florida must be left to the imagination or to conjecture.

† Bell District, or Bell-town as it was also called, had a brief existence of something like a dozen years.

This district was at the lower end of the village street and was made up of a part of Whipstick, Flat Rock and West Lane Districts.

The school house was on the west side of Main Street almost as far south as the convergence of the Wilton roads. It stood on land formerly of Thaddeus Keeler, 1st, (known as Wheelwright Thad to distinguish him from his neighbor a little up the street, Thaddeus Keeler the justice, who was called Quality Thad.)

This district derived its name from the fact that this schoolhouse was supplied with a bell, the only schoolhouse in town thus equipped.

This district was numbered thirteen, South Ridgebury and North Ridgebury being numbered fourteen and fifteen respectively.

In 1860, thirty-six scholars were enrolled in Bell District.

In 1865 the schoolhouse burned, and this district was once more absorbed by those from which it sprung.

From an old account book kept by Matthew Seymour of Whipstick District the following enumeration of the children by school districts in 1849 is taken. It is interesting to note the large attendance in the rural districts of that day.

Scott's Ridge (Scotland)	52
Bennett's Farms	13
Limestone	22
Titicus	73
West Mountain	48
Town (Center)	76
West Lane	40
Whipstick	52
Flat Rock	35
Branchville	38
Florida	26
Farmingville	29
"New" No. 13 (Upper Scotland)	38
Total	542

From the same book the number of scholars given for Flat Rock in 1845 is fifty-seven, and for West Lane, seventy-five.

The enumeration of the children between four and sixteen years of age in Ridgefield for 1926 is seven hundred and forty-one.

For many years, the school house in the village was located upon the triangle at the junction of Main and Catoonah Streets. The last single room school-house in the center district stood upon the present site of the Fire House.

On May 22nd, 1882, Phineas C. Lounsbury gave to the Sixth School District the land upon which the Bailey Avenue School-house now stands and also contributed generously toward the erection of the building. In a few years the number of scholars increased so rapidly that it

became absolutely necessary to provide more room for the students. Principally through the efforts of Dr. William H. Allee the town built a new grammar school. At a town meeting held October 7th, 1912, the town voted to accept a gift of land from Edward P. Dutton and others, and appointed a committee to erect a suitable school house at a cost not to exceed \$40,000.00. The land given to the town is the present property on East Ridge. The following persons were appointed a building committee: Dr. William H. Allee, Albert H. Storer, Michael T. McGlynn, Charles S. Nash, D. Frank Bedient, Charles B. Northrop, Benjamin F. Crouchley, Cyrus A. Cornen, Jr., Mrs. Ebenezer W. Keeler, Mrs. James H. Perry and Mrs. Mortimer C. Keeler.

On July 4th, 1914, the corner stone of the new school building was laid with imposing ceremonies. Honorable Howell Cheney of Manchester gave the address of the day.

The day was given over to festivities, a parade being held, and in addition to exercises incident to the laying of the corner stone, games were held, and in the evening, the Ridgefield Band gave a concert, which was followed by a display of fire-works.

At a special town meeting held June 3rd, 1915, a High School was established in Ridgefield, and the Bailey Avenue Building was designated as the High School. The high school in Ridgefield was named for Alexander Hamilton and the grammar school for Benjamin Franklin. From its beginning it has grown until in January, 1927, the large new building on East Ridge was opened for use. In 1927 the high school was renamed The Ridgefield High School.

In 1912 the town voted for free text books. At a special town meeting May 29th, 1916, it was voted that a kindergarten should be maintained by the town. The kindergarten was first established in Ridgefield through the kindness and generosity of Mrs. Peter M. Bryson. Through her philanthropy the kindergarten was opened in 1894.

Miss Adelaide Rogers, of the Teachers' College, New York City, was the first teacher, and remained in Ridgefield eight years. In 1902, Miss Mabel E. Cleves succeeded Miss Rogers, and at the present writing is the director. The kindergarten was privately supported until 1916. Following Mrs. Bryson, Mrs. William S. Hawk, Mrs. George G. Haven, Mrs. Albert H. Storer, Mrs. Leila Haven Jones and Mrs. Alice Haven Trevor continued this philanthropic work. In 1913, the town voted that a kindergarten room should be provided in the Benjamin Franklin School on East Ridge.

The following are the present members of the Town School Committee: Michael T. McGlynn, Chairman; George G. Scott; Ethel M. Ryan; James Cumming; Marion H. Nash; Ernest O. Wilson; Samuel E. Nicholas; Charles F. Palmer; Bernard F. Keeler; Mrs. David W. Workman, Secretary.

Among the new school buildings in the town is the Farmingville School-house, built and presented to the Town of Ridgefield by the Honorable George E. Lounsbury. The gift was made while he was Governor of Connecticut. Mr. Theodore B. Starr presented the grounds upon which the school-house stands.

The local branch of the National League for Women's Service founded a War Memorial Scholarship in 1919. The qualifications of applicants included general fitness and sound character, and that the boy or girl must be under twenty years, and his or her parents or guardians must be residents of Ridgefield for at least five years. The decision as to the holder of the Scholarship is based upon fitness of character, school record and the merits of an essay written on a given subject, which shall give proof of study and interest in things relating to the history of our principles and forms of government. The Scholarship has been awarded twice. It was first awarded to Miss Ella C. Allan in 1923. Miss Allan wrote upon

the subject "The Connecticut Constitution of 1639; Conditions leading to its Formation." Miss Allan entered Butler College, Indianapolis, Indiana, where she remained a year, and then entered Mount Holyoke College, Massachusetts.

In 1926, the Scholarship was awarded Miss Catherine G. Rockwell. The subject of Miss Rockwell's essay was "The Growth and Settlement of Ridgefield During the First One Hundred Years." Miss Rockwell entered the College of Mount St. Vincent, New York City, where, at the present writing, she is continuing her studies.

Ridgefield has always been favored with private schools of a high type. The first school of this character was established by Reverend Samuel G. Goodrich in his house on High Ridge. In that same dwelling several schools of a similar nature have been since conducted. For many years Professor Hugh S. Banks and subsequently Honorable William O. Seymour kept select schools here. A few of Mr. Seymour's pupils are still living. Among his former pupils may be mentioned William A. Gilbert, Bradley W. Sanford, William L. Sherwood, who afterwards was a contributing editor to the Standard Dictionary, the three Hoyt Brothers, Edwin K., Ebenezer A., and Charles F., John Weed of North Salem, Jeremiah Donovan, now living in South Norwalk, Congressman from 1913-1915, John Monroe, George Washington Gilbert, Fred Mead of Wilton, Lewis Reed of Brewster and Jerome Godfrey of Weston.

Dr. David H. Short, rector of St. Stephen's Church, maintained a school of a very high character at his residence on the corner of King Lane and Main Street. Dr. Short, after resigning as rector, continued the school for many years. The steam-engine at the candle-stick factory just north was a great novelty, and Dr. Short's students made daily trips to see it in operation. George E. and Phineas C. Lounsbury, Seth Sanford, Colonel David Perry and D. Smith Gage attended this school.

For many years, the Misses Elizabeth and Gertrude Vinton conducted a select school for girls on East Ridge. This school was maintained until 1905, when it was moved to Pomfret, Connecticut. The aims of this school were of the highest and most refined type, and among the alumnae are many women who have become prominent in the educational and social world.

The Ridgefield School for Boys was founded in 1907 by Dr. Roland Jessup Mulford, and was located in the former Ridgefield Inn property on lower Main Street, subsequently moving to Scotland District. The original idea of a small school with small classes and a large faculty has been faithfully adhered to from the beginning. The graduates of this school have a high mark in college both scholastically and in extra-curricular activities, leading classes and winning a Rhodes Scholarship. In the social and athletic collegiate life students from the Ridgefield School have been elected as class presidents and captains of athletic teams. The school property, consisting of one hundred and fifteen acres, is in Scotland District on the easterly slope of Titicus mountain. The head master at the present writing is Professor Theodore C. Jessup. The school accommodates between fifty and sixty boarders and a limited number of day scholars.

A private school was kept for many years in Florida District by Professor Lee Edmond. This school was located near the crossing at Florida Station, the little building back of the station being the school-house. Students prepared at this school for college. William O. Seymour and Dr. Nehemiah Perry, Jr., were among the pupils who graduated from this school. The students were mainly from New York City. As this was in the days before railroads were built, the students made the journey by stage coach.

It seems fitting that a record should be made of Jeremiah Smith, who lived in Scotland District. His place

was the present home of Walter Hampden. Mr. Smith was very generous, and during his life assisted the schools in that section of the town. He bequeathed money to the Ridgebury and Scotland Schools, also to Mill Plain Church. He also left a bequest to the Ridgebury Church.

LIBRARIES

The first library in the town of Ridgefield is described by Reverend Samuel G. Goodrich in 1800 as having been established in 1795 with one hundred and fifty volumes.

In 1852 Colonel Hiram K. Scott conducted a circulating library the plan of which was as follows:

" Rules and Terms

HIRAM K. SCOTT *Circulating Library*

For Novels, Travels Etc., in pamphlet form, 25 cents
 " 50 cent books per week 6 cents per volume
 " Books, per week 3 cents per volume
 " books costing over 50 cents . . . 9 cents per volume
 Any book kept two days over a week, is to be paid for as two weeks, and so on.

The value of the book is to be left as a deposit by strangers. All books that are injured to be paid for — and none to be lent.

The price of reading to be paid for when the book is taken out.

The subscriber trusts, that as the price of reading is so low, that encouragement will be afforded to justify him in making frequent additions to his library.

Ridgefield, Conn., Nov. 1st, 1852 Hiram K. Scott "

At a meeting of several citizens of Ridgefield at the office of Dr. William S. Todd, on the evening of the 16th of October, 1871, held for the purpose of considering ways and means of procuring a library, William S. Todd, M. D., was appointed chairman and D. S. Sholes secretary. It was voted that the members be assessed three dollars each, which money was to be spent in procuring books. The members of this Library Club were William S. Todd, M. D.,

Edward H. Smith, Ira S. Keeler, Elbridge G. Northrop, Albert N. Thomas, D. Smith Sholes, James L. Hunt, Charles B. Northrop, George B. Grumman, Lewis C. Seymour, Ebenezer W. Keeler, Albert Campbell and Dr. Daniel L. Adams. The club bought books, and at the end of the year they were sold and other volumes were purchased. In 1878 and 1879 the books were not sold, and with these as a nucleus the present Ridgefield Library was started.

At a meeting held December 3rd, 1880, by-laws were adopted and officers elected. The officers were as follows: Edward H. Smith, President; Reverend Francis A. Henry, Vice-President; Dr. William S. Todd, Secretary; Dr. Daniel L. Adams, Treasurer.

In 1883, a building for the use of the Library was furnished by Phineas C. Lounsbury. This building, for a while located in Bailey Avenue, was moved to Governor Street, and is now the office of the Ridgefield Water Company. It was the home of the library for many years, until the completion of the present building. In 1900 the land on which the present building is located was purchased for the Library Association. In 1901 Mr. James Morris built the library in memory of his deceased wife, Mrs. Elizabeth W. Morris.

For many years, D. Smith Sholes was President of the Library Association. Following Mr. Sholes were George M. Olcott, Cortlandt P. Dixon, Dr. George G. Shelton and the present incumbent in 1927, Edward L. Ballard. Mrs. A. Newbold Morris furnished the Library; Misses Annie and Ellen Stone graded and improved the grounds; Mr. and Mrs. William S. Hawk built the sidewalk, and George M. Olcott presented the oak trees planted along the library property on Depot Hill. For many years, Mrs. William S. Todd was librarian, then Miss Eliza Conklin, who was succeeded by Miss Jennie Smith. The present officers are Edward L. Ballard, President; Seth Low Pierrepont, Vice-President; Albert H. Storer, Secretary; Miss Augusta P.

Dixon, Treasurer; Miss Marion H. Nash, Librarian. The chairman of the Library Committee is Mrs. Archibald V. Davis. The directors are Albert H. Storer, Richard W. Osborn, Jonathan Bulkley, Arthur G. Seymour, A. V. Davis, Colonel L. D. Conley, Reverend Hugh Shields, Seth Low Pierrepont, William H. Cargon, Jr., Edward W. Simons, Louis M. Starr, Mrs. A. V. Davis, Miss Edna Biddle, Miss Augusta P. Dixon.

The library is named the Ridgefield Library and Historical Association. The library contains fifteen thousand volumes. There is a reference library of about three hundred and twenty-five volumes and the reading room at the present writing has four daily papers, fifteen weekly, and twenty-five monthly periodicals.

CHAPTER XXXIII

FORMER INDUSTRIES OF THE TOWN

It seems strange that the present purely residential community of Ridgefield should have been a whirling little center of industry, yet the manufacturing enterprises carried on in Ridgefield in the first half of the nineteenth century were of a most diversified character. There were several small hat shops, the candlestick factory and tin shop, the Titicus tannery, the cabinet shop, the Florida foundry and the carriage manufactory. The latter was called the "Big Shop," by which name it is recalled even at the present day.

The manufacturing of carriages was a business that brought much revenue to the town. The work was carried on at the "Big Shop," which stood at the corner of Main Street and West Lane, from which spot it was removed, to be replaced by the Congregational Church. A portion of this building was moved uptown, in the rear of the Lannon residence, where it can be seen today. The old walls and solid oak timbers are an example of Boss Albin Jennings' work, for "Boss" Jennings was the architect and builder. The writer cannot find the exact year in which this building was erected, but it was about 1830. The late Benjamin K. Northrop, born in 1823, remembers when he was a small boy attending a circus or menagerie, which exhibited on this corner just prior to the raising of the building.

About the year 1800 the first carriage was made in Ridgefield. The Reverend Samuel Goodrich, father of our beloved "Peter Parley," employed an Englishman who came to town, named Jesse J. Skellinger, to build

him a coach. The work was done in the barn. Oak and ash were cut in the woods, and after the wood was seasoned and sawed, the wheels, shafts and other wood-work were shaped. Skellinger was a carriage builder, and with the assistance of Thomas Hawley, who did the iron-work, the coach was built. Thomas Hawley was half wheelwright and half blacksmith. In five months the coach was finished, top and all. There was considerable gazing and much excitement when this vehicle was driven on its first trip through the street. This was the beginning of the carriage manufacturing in Ridgefield.

From this time, some little attention was given to this industry, Skellinger entering the employ of Elijah Hawley, who was a wagon maker. After a time, the "Big Shop" was built as stated. Brush, Olmstead and Company formed a co-partnership, and this firm turned out many vehicles, noted for their excellence and beauty. Those interested in the firm were Platt Brush, Chauncey Olmstead, Abijah Resseguie and Czar Jones.

Platt Brush was a wood-worker, and lived in the house now occupied by Louis Joffe. Abijah Resseguie, so well known in connection with the Resseguie Tavern, is mentioned many times in this volume. Chauncey Olmstead lived in the house owned by Solomon Brown, after the latter moved from Farmingville to the place on Main Street, which is now the home of Lewis H. Losee. Czar Jones, also a wood-worker, lived in the house now owned by Albert H. Storer. His son, Edward B. Jones, who moved to New Haven, learned the trade with his father. William W. Seymour, 1st, father of Honorable William O. Seymour, was another wood-worker whose home was on the present site of the Congregational parsonage. Augustus Lyon was the head blacksmith. He lived in the house now owned by Herbert Harde, the home of the late Edward H. Smith. William W. Seymour, 2nd, was also a blacksmith and iron-worker, and one of the last survivors of

this sturdy band. Eli Foote, another blacksmith, worked here and lived in the house which formerly stood south of Mrs. David S. Egleston's. This house was moved to Bailey Avenue, where it still stands. Mr. Foote afterwards had a blacksmith shop at the upper end of the village. Jarvis Pugsley, who lived on the site of the Martin Block, was a trimmer; Walter Quintard, a wood-worker, and afterwards mayor of South Norwalk, worked at the "Big Shop"; Henry Brush was a trimmer and upholsterer; Joel Benjamin was a painter, and many fine specimens of work did these men turn out. Others who were employed later were John F. Gilbert, a coach body builder, Sereno S. Hurlbutt, wood-worker, Elias G. Hoyt, wheel-wright, Sylvester Smith, trimmer, and Lockwood Olmstead, who lived where Mrs. Aaron L. Northrop resides at the present writing.

Most of the products, which were light carriages, were sold in the South, and New Orleans was a great market for these vehicles, the company having a sales-room in this city.

At this time Hawley and Bailey had a store in the present "Old Hundred." It was a favorite place for these workers to congregate evenings, and added to their number would be found Joshua I. King, Walter Smith, David Hurlbutt and others. The affairs of the town and nation were ardently discussed but never settled. The slavery question was a burning topic. Andrew Jackson, General William Henry Harrison, Henry Clay and Daniel Webster all had warm supporters, and the arguments sometimes waxed hot.

In one portion of the Big Shop later on Messrs. D. Smith Sholes and Edward H. Smith manufactured shirts. The "Ridgefield Shirt" at one time was well known, as it was cut in a manner that made it a pleasure to wear one of these garments. With the incoming of the style of shirt with the stiff, starched bosom, it was quite diffi-

cult at times to find a make that was easy to wear with comfort.

There was a large assembly hall in the second story of the "Big Shop" called Jones' Hall. Here carriages were stored and when the hall was wanted for use, the room was cleared. Professor Gunning of Boston delivered several lectures here on "Evolution," to a crowded room. Great interest was also taken in the "Soldiers' Fair," held during the Civil War for the benefit of the sick soldiers and for the hospitals at the front. Such interest pervaded the North, and Ridgefield was no exception, that all sects and creeds united to make this fair a great financial success. For a time the Catholic Church held services in this hall, there being no church of that denomination at that time nearer than Danbury. In 1864 a great political meeting was held in Jones' Hall when Honorable Hannibal Hamlin of Maine, Vice-President of the United States, spoke here. With him was Senator Washburn of Illinois. Honorable William O. Seymour presided at this meeting. Mr. Hamlin was the guest of Ebenezer Jones, and the latter sent his team to Danbury to bring this distinguished American to Ridgefield.

Martin Hennelly was the driver, and often he has told of the trip and the kind nature of this great man. A word must be said of the team, which was a pair of cream colored horses, driven before a cream color wagon, with cream color harness and cream color trimmings to match and a cream color dog ran along with the team. Mr. Jones also wore cream color clothes. Mr. Jones always kept horses of this color, and it has been said that Queen Victoria sent a representative to Ridgefield to purchase a pair of these horses to be used on the royal coach. After the speech in the hall, Mr. Hennelly carried Vice-President Hamlin to Branchville where he took a train for New York City. In passing through Main Street a sign bearing the name of J. J. Lockwood, at that time the local

tin-smith, caught the attention of Mr. Hamlin. He remarked to Mr. Hennelly that there was a noted man by that name in his own town in Maine.

There are many who recall the old building as it was, and to whom this sketch may be of interest, and it is certain that many happy recollections will be brought to the minds of those who remember as yesterday, the "Big Shop," as a flourishing institution.

The Cabinet Shop stood on the site of the southerly portion of the late Bailey Inn, and extended beyond the fence upon the grounds of Joshua I. King. Samuel Hawley and Rufus H. Pickett were the proprietors. Samuel Hawley lived in the "Brick House," which was situated near the northeast corner of Main Street and King Lane. He was the son of Hezekiah Hawley, and undoubtedly learned his trade from his uncle, Deacon Elisha Hawley. Rufus Pickett lived in the house opposite the Lounsbury home. The partnership of Hawley and Pickett was continued for a number of years and then dissolved. "Boss" Pickett, as he was called, then built the cabinet shop on Market Street. It is still standing on the grounds of the late Governor Phineas C. Lounsbury, in the rear of the present home of Mrs. Ebenezer W. Keeler. The majority of the workmen boarded with Boss Pickett.

Among them were William Stone, Charles A. Smith, John Bouton, George Keeler, Douglas Morgan who came from Georgetown, Nelson B. Sherwood, Thaddeus Hoyt, and Boss Pickett's sons, Starr and Edwin. The former became an attorney in New Haven, and the latter gave up his young life on the battle-field of Gettysburg. His body was recovered by his brother Starr after several days searching on the field of battle. John Bouton, who, for years conducted a cabinet business in Norwalk, learned his trade here, and was very skillful, especially in the work of mahogany veneering. "Boss" Pickett was accustomed to take Mr. Bouton on his trips through the woods around Ridge-

field when selecting trees to be cut down for making furniture.

Of the various industries in Ridgefield, there are more tangible evidences existing of the work turned out at the cabinet shop than of any other manufactory. Many fine specimens of colonial design are to be seen in Ridgefield and adjacent towns, made by Boss Pickett and his crafty workmen. Mr. Pickett himself did all the turning and carving, and was especially fine and expert as a mahogany carver. High four post bed-steeds, ornamental chairs, center tables and card tables with claw feet, in fact every kind of furniture was then made in Ridgefield. Much of their product was sent to the southern states, especially counting house desks, as they were called. There was a demand in the south for these desks, which were generally made from mahogany or cherry. It is probable that those who sold the carriages in the south made at the "Big Shop," also exploited and advertised Ridgefield furniture.

Many pranks were played by the cabinet shop apprentices. One that may be mentioned is the pulling down of the Democratic flag-pole. John D. Hurlbutt, who lived near the shop, was at the head of the plot. The Whigs had ash, and the Democrats, hickory poles, to hold their respective banners. It was in the Polk campaign of 1844. Henry Clay was the Whig nominee for President. John Hurlbutt, with nine cabinet shop apprentices, "bored down" the Democratic pole with augers. This method was chosen as it was silent, whereas the sound of the axe or saw would have betrayed the enthusiastic Whigs in their work. The Democratic pole stood on the corner of Main and Catoonah Streets, in front of the residence of Russell Jones. During this same presidential campaign, Boss Pickett showed his ingenuity as a designer by making a wooden horse. This equine figure represented Polk, and it was placed in a wooden trough filled with clay. The whole was labeled, "Polk Mired in Clay." The float,

as it might be called, was drawn through the street to the admiration of the Whigs and the discomfiture of the Democrats.

At the upper end of Main Street, Thomas Rockwell also had a cabinet shop. Thomas Rockwell was the father of our late venerable townsman, John W. Rockwell. The building used for that purpose is the present north cottage of the Elms Hotel. Formerly Uriah Seymour had a shoe making establishment here. This was before 1799, the year Uncle Tommy, as he was called, bought the place. Uncle Tommy was an apprentice of Elijah Hawley. Later, Uncle Tommy's son, Francis A. Rockwell, had a tin-shop in this building. Francis A. Rockwell was a very progressive citizen, and was interested greatly in the culture of fruit, and products of the soil. At his former home, opposite Market Street, now owned by Mrs. Charles Lee Rockwell of Meriden, are many varieties of pear and apple trees which he planted. Mr. Rockwell built an addition on the shop, constructing a room where he cultivated silk worms.

The candle-stick factory was conducted by the brothers, John W. and Francis A. Rockwell. It was operated first in the building afterward the Bailey Inn, then moved to Catoonah Street in a building which stood on the site of Sperry's livery stable. A political rally was held in the hall over the shop one evening in September, 1868, and that night the building burned, and with it the old Catholic Church as related elsewhere.

Here were made brass and tin candle-sticks. Some were made long and cylindrical, with a spring on the inside which forced the candle up as rapidly as it burned. Another article of great use to the farmers were hog scrapers, used to scrape the hair from hogs at butchering time, after their immersion in boiling water. These scrapers were made with wooden handles, fastened to a concave disc of iron. Oft-times the common candle-sticks were

used for the purpose of scraping hogs, and many of our farmers still have on hand candle-sticks made at the old shop, which they use when butchering. Another invention, and one which mothers of today would gladly welcome, were the patent bed clothes clasps. These were ingeniously made so that the clothes on a child's bed could be fastened at the sides with clamps. In winter, many mothers used them to keep the children covered. Newspaper holders were also made here. This arrangement in shape and size was something like an ordinary umbrella handle. The paper could be inserted and the holder would keep it in shape. It was especially useful in hotels and public places where the same paper would be handled by many people.

On the present site of the home of the Misses Boyd was formerly a small building, which afterward became part of the house now standing there. Here was conducted a silver plating business. Charles Grumman was the proprietor and Simon Couch worked with him. Buckles and hardware for harnesses and carriages were plated here, this line of work constituting the greater part of their business. In those days silver plating was done by hand, the sheets of silver being applied with hot irons to the metal to be covered. Isaac Lewis was the silver-smith and lived just below, opposite the Resseguie or Keeler Tavern. Mr. Lewis made silver spoons and many are still to be seen in Ridgefield with his initials upon them. Mr. Lewis came to Ridgefield from Shelton. Silver plating was also done at the Pickett Shop on Market Street.

There were many small hat shops in different sections of the town. Samuel Olmstead conducted a hat shop in Titicus near the four corners, the building afterwards being converted into a dwelling house, and is now the present home of Jasper Walker. Hiram Bouton, Lockwood Gray, and others worked there. At this shop were made soft hats, this being the only soft hat shop in town. Mr. Olmstead was also proprietor of the Titicus store. Farther

down the Titicus River on the cross street to Stonecrest farm, Zalmon Main and Kellogg Reed ran a small shop. At the lower end of the village, at the present home of George L. McElroy, lived Burr Keeler, who had a shop where later were the stables of Adams and Keeler. It is worthy of note to record that here James H. Knapp learned his trade. He afterwards moved to South Norwalk, and became one of the founders of the great Crofut and Knapp factory.

The largest hat factory in town was that of Jones, Slawson and Betts on Catoonah Street. Russell Jones, who was afterwards postmaster, Jesse Slawson, and Aaron Betts were the members of the firm. Jacob Legrand Dauchy began his apprenticeship here. A fine napped hat was made, equal to any sold in the New York markets. In those days, it was reckoned that these hats stood equal with those of Knox, who produced the head-gear *par excellence* of that date. George Sears carried on a hatting business in a building which stood just west of the house near the brook on Barry Avenue, the Sherwood Mead place, as it is known today. A well in the plank room furnished the water. Stiff napped hats were made and an extensive business was carried on. The making only was done here, the hats being taken to Danbury for coloring and finishing. A wagon would call once a week or so, and take up a load. Most of the hats were made for Sutton's factory in Mill Plain. Among those who worked in the Sears' factory were Edwin Sears, a brother; David Nash, who lived on Catoonah Street in the present home of James Cumming; and Sylvester Main, who played a clarinet in the Ridgefield Band, and also was a great performer on the bass drum, using two drum-sticks at a time. From 1861 to 1865, he was postmaster. He was the father of the late Hubert P. Main, and Mrs. Cynthia Isabelle Olmstead. Albert Mead was another hatter at Sears' shop, and lived in West Lane, the present home of Edward S. Beach.

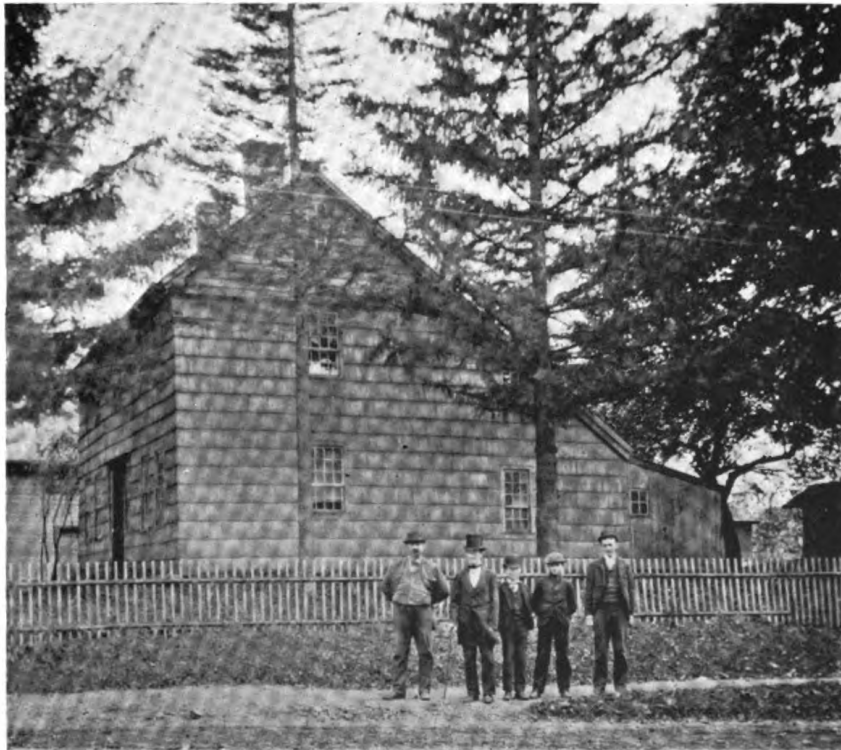
Mr. Mead lost his life in the great San Francisco earthquake. Jacob Legrand Dauchy was another famed hatter, the survivor in Ridgefield of those who worked at this shop. The Civil War broke out and Mr. Dauchy enlisted in the 11th Regiment, and George Sears went to Danbury and enlisted in Company C of the 17th Regiment.

William Lounsbury conducted a shoe manufactory in the old building which stood upon the site of the present post office. This building, an old land-mark in the town, and now standing in the rear of the Post Office, has a history of its own. For years Henry Mead ran a grocery store here, and his brother Charles, a shoe repairing shop on the upper floor. Charles Mead always came to work at *four o'clock in the morning*, and left at four o'clock in the afternoon. William Lounsbury went to Bridgeport where he established a large and successful business under the name of William Lounsbury and Company.

Another industry, the Old Foundry in Florida District, must not be passed by. It was run by Thomas Couch and Ebenezer Burr Sanford. Before the Danbury and Norwalk Railroad was built, iron was carted to the foundry from Norwalk, and here it was cast and moulded. Plow-shares, sleigh shoes, mill work such as cog-wheels, shafting and gearing, stoves, frogs for the railroad, iron work for the cars; anything of cast iron could be turned out here. For years a station called "Couch's" was located in Florida District between Branchville and Sanford's Station. At the time this foundry was operated, there was none other nearer than New Haven on the east, and the Hudson River on the West. "Uncle Tommy" Couch ran the lathe, turning out the wood-work for the plows which were made complete. "Uncle Tommy" cast a cannon about two and a half feet long with an inch and a half bore, to be used locally in firing salutes. It was mounted on wheels, and was the pride of Florida. During the Civil War, it was fired every time news was received of a Union Victory.



EAST RIDGE IN SPRINGTIME,
1900.



OLD COLONIAL HOUSE,
corner of Catoonah and Main Streets, built by Nathan Dauchy about 1800; now removed to Catoonah Street. Formerly the home of Nathan Dauchy, Russell Jones, Joel L. Rockwell, William Lounsbury, Henry Mead, Hiram K. Scott, Jr. Standing on sidewalk are Morris B. Whitlock, Gould Rockwell, and three boys, names unknown.

This cannon is now in possession of Burr Sanford of West Redding.

In another part of Florida District, just below Cooper Station, can be seen the remains of an old dam. Here, Boss Pickett at one time sawed out his lumber, which he used in his cabinet shop. Down on the turnpike between the mountains a half mile above Branchville Station, was the old Clover Mill. It was run first by Bradley Beers, then by John Mallory and later by George Abbott, when superior corn meal being made. Farmers for miles brought plaster to be ground for use as a fertilizer, and also clover tops from which the seed was extracted. This latter process gave the mill its name. In the fall, cider was made. The mill was situated most picturesquely between the high hills and the rushing river. In truth it may be stated that this gap is the true gateway to the Berkshires, as these peaks are the most southern point of that range of mountains.

The Titicus tan yards were situated on the left bank of the Titicus River, just below Aaron B. Gilbert's flour and cider mill. It was the last of the many thriving industries established in Ridgefield in the fore part of the last century, to give way to the competition of larger plants. Many of the people in Ridgefield today can well remember the tan yards, with its flock of pigeons, several hundred in number, so it seems to the writer, and the dark muddy colored vats. The pigeons furnished many a pie for the neighbors, as they were no respecters of the grain on other people's land, and would feed with all the chickens in Titicus Street. They were kept for the compost they furnished, which was considered excellent to use in tanning. Jabez Mix Gilbert was the founder of the business. He was always known as "Uncle Mix", and was a great Methodist and a most benevolent and good-hearted man. It was his custom in the winter, and in fact at any time of

year, to hitch up his team, and distribute groceries and other food-stuffs among the poor.

After Uncle Mix died, the tannery was operated for a while by his son, Reverend Elias Gilbert, until it was put up at auction and sold to close out the estate. David H. Valden, who had learned the tanning business from Uncle Mix, was the buyer. Mr. Valden carried on a large business, having over one hundred vats in operations. The product, which was split and grain leather, was sold all over the country. During the Civil War much of the leather was shipped to Chicago. The hides were brought to the tan yards by farmers and butchers from Ridgefield and surrounding towns. These hides were usually from steers and cows. The hair from the hides was sold to masons to mix with lime. The prevailing price of hair was sixty cents a bushel, and the best market was Danbury. All trimmings were sold to be used in the manufacture of glue. Peter Cooper of New York City bought most of the trimmings, but some were purchased by Gilbert and Bennett, Georgetown. This firm also bought the tails, as the long hair was made into "curled hair," which was one of the branches of the business carried on by Gilbert and Bennett at that time. Two buildings are still standing which were connected with the tan yards. One is the old bark mill near the roadside and the other the house in the apex between the road and stream. The latter building was formerly the currying shop.

It took three months from the time the hides were first placed in the vats until the finished leather was ready for market. The hides were first immersed in a large vat of fresh water to soak out the salt. Farmers usually rubbed salt on the hides to keep them from spoiling until they could get them to the tannery. After the soaking, they were placed across a "beam," and fleshed, with "fleshing knives," which were oval in shape. The hides were next tied head to tail and put in lime water to remove the

hair. Then came the "milling," or scraping off the hair. After this they were next placed in the "bait." The bait consisted of a mixture made of water and the pigeon compost. Every day the hides were taken out to air. They were left six days in the "bait," and then worked over beams to remove the lime. A special knife, called a beam knife, was used for this process. The hides were then remilled, which was the final cleaning, and then put into a weak oak bark liquor. Here they were left two months, the liquor being made stronger from day to day, until the hides were tanned. The hides were now removed from the vats and thoroughly dried, then run through the splitting machines. After being split, they were cut in two from the head down the back, one hide making four sides. After being split, the hides were re-tanned for a week, and then were scoured out. Then came the currying, which is the finishing. This part of the work was done by the most skillful help. First the sides were stuffed with grease, which was usually tallow and fish-oil put on with brushes. They were then dried for a week, then buffed and blacked.

There was an immense over-shot wheel in the bark mill. Here oak and hemlock bark was ground. The water was brought from an underground iron pipe from the pond upon the hill from the tannery. Upper Pond was the source of much of the water supply, it being used as a storage reservoir. The boys from Titicus School were accustomed to go to the old bark mill and stand upon the arms of the wheel in order to start it. The wheel was of immense size, at least twenty feet in diameter. In winter it often froze up, and on one of these occasions Warren Hoyt, who for years was employed at the tannery, was sent in to cut out the ice. While he was engaged in

doing this, Uncle Mix opened the gate, and the wheel began to revolve. He hung on, and went around several times, crying out to Uncle Mix to shut off the water. Three Canadians were employed in currying, and one of them had a similar experience.

Others who worked at the old tannery were Louis and Charles Valden, who succeeded their father in the business, Charles Jarvis, who afterwards went to Emmett, Iowa, Bradley Edmond, Daniel Sherwood, Daniel Lovejoy, John Brophy, William and Allen Rascoe. At the present time, there are vestiges of the yards to be seen, but the busy scenes of over half a century ago are no more. The stream still flows on its way to join the Croton, but the approaches to the old bridge, the same over which the British retreated in 1777, have been changed. The State Road to North Salem has transformed the country.

Titicus is a most picturesque portion of our town, and its inhabitants have exerted no mean influence toward the advancement and building up of Ridgefield.

Although outside the confines of the township of Ridgefield, the writer cannot refrain from giving a sketch of the Glenburgh Mills, situated in Georgetown, just below the glen. Just off the state road, the traveler may see a substantial stone building, four stories high. Years ago a sign in large letters conveyed the information that this was "The Glenburgh Mills and Chemical Works." The mill, together with the house and adjoining farm, was formerly the property of Dr. Nehemiah Perry, Sr., of Ridgefield, who spent much time in compounding medicines and conducting experiments of various kinds. The question was once asked if happiness was manufactured there. If happiness was one of the doctor's out-puts, it was happiness pure and unalloyed, for such was the character of all the

productions of the Glenburgh Mills. Certainly many of the doctor's wares brought happiness to the house-wife, and peace and comfort to many an ailing body in need of a soothing and efficacious remedy. Dr. Perry was a chemist of note, and was fond of experimenting. Strictly pure spices were ground here and the purchaser knew that the package of pepper, cinnamon, ginger or other spice when labeled "Glenburgh Mills" was unadulterated. A shoe blacking that would give a most beautiful polish, and also preserve the leather, was manufactured; also a harmless preparation for preserving meat in hot weather. Black hair dye could be obtained anywhere, and was manufactured throughout the country generally, but Dr. Perry conceived the idea that sandy complexioned people might like a dye that would suit their particular shade, and so he compounded one. Aaron M. Reed sold this dye on his peddling route, and as a practical illustration had his own beard dyed with the tincture, and thus was a visible exponent of its excellence. Dr. Perry experimented long and faithfully on a black dye for cloth. He finally made one that would not run, or fade in the sun. He dyed a lamb's skin and left it in the river near the mill for two weeks. He then hung it where it was exposed to the sun for several weeks longer and the results were more than satisfactory. Perhaps the greatest invention was a non-explosive burning fluid, but just as it was put on the market, kerosene oil was discovered and a production of anticipated great financial value was of no further use.

Besides the afore-mentioned articles, many medicines were put up, and among them was a celebrated cough medicine called "Demulcent Compound for Coughs and Colds." Dr. Perry was a strong temperance man, and

was also opposed to the use of tobacco in any form. He recognized the fact that it would be a difficult matter for any one who used tobacco to break off abruptly, and so he invented a substitute which could be chewed, and it was much used. Boys who never chewed tobacco, used it extensively. It was composed of slippery elm bark, tolu and balsam, and looked just like tobacco. "Rubificent Liniment" and "Aromatic Fever Powders," and many, many other remedies were made which were famous throughout the state. Rye and buckwheat were ground into flour, and the mill was noted for the fine flour made there. Dr. Perry's son, Samuel, was in charge of the mill. It is many years since the mill was used for the purpose for which it was built, but it stands as a monument of those who labored honestly and faithfully nearly a hundred years ago. After the death of Dr. Perry, his son, Samuel, operated the mill for many years.

In Branchville Philo Bates conducted a stone quarry, and employed a large number of workmen. The stone used in building St. Mary's Catholic Church in Norwalk was quarried here. There were also lime-kilns in the town, one in Bennett's Farms run by William Selleck, where not only lime was burned, but a great quantity of brick was made. Another lime-kiln was conducted by Russell Canfield over near Sharp Hill. At this kiln, ten cords of wood were burned in a day. Joel Gilbert built the kiln and with his son ran the business for years. Lime was carted as far as Stamford and Greenwich from this establishment. In Farmingville, Colonel Phineas Chapman and William Lee had large lime-kilns. Colonel Chapman's lime-kiln was located in the present yard of Frederick C. Lee.

In Farmingville at the foot of Cain's Hill was the fulling mill operated by Hugh Cain, for whom Cain's Hill

is named. The Farmer's Chronicle of Monday, September 29th, 1794, published at Danbury, contained the following advertisement in reference to the cloth mill at the foot of Cain's Hill:

"Hugh Cain, of Ridgefield, announces that he can full in the driest season, has now begun, and can continue to full, provided there should be no rain for six weeks to come. He makes all colors made in America (Scarlet excepted.)"

This mill was situated on the Norwalk River on the road leading to Topstone. The Glover brothers, Elias N. and John S., ran the business for years, and were followed by Henry F. Lawton, a practical fuller, who came from England, well experienced in his trade. The Glovers spun yarn and wove woolen cloth. Nearly every house-wife had her spinning wheel and was independent of the mills and the outside world for clothing. The mill relieved these women from much labor, as the people would shear their sheep, take the wool to the mill to be spun into yarn, and then it was ready for the knitting of socks, gloves or tip-pets, which was done at home. The Glovers made satin-ette also, which was very pleasant to the touch, if smoothed the right way.

Other industries are given in the chapter with sketches from school districts.

It will be seen that in the old days Ridgefield was a thriving village and practically self-sustaining, possessed of thrifty and industrious citizens. How different it is at present, devoid of its factories and shops, and like most other communities of its type, dependent upon the large centers of industry and agriculture for the necessities of life.

Much of detail has been given in regard to the industries as mentioned in this chapter. The writer feels that it is

more or less a chronicle of the comings and goings of a generation past and almost forgotten. In the years to come, there will be many who may be interested in knowing those of their ancestors who had their work, pleasures and diversions in Ridgefield a century ago.

CHAPTER XXXIV

CEMETERIES

"Beneath those rugged elms, that yew-tree's shade,
Where heaves the turf in many a mouldering heap,
Each in his narrow cell forever laid,
The rude forefathers of the hamlet sleep.

The breezy call of incense-breathing morn,
The swallow, twittering from the straw-built shed,
The cock's shrill clarion, or the echoing horn,
No more shall rouse them from their lowly bed.

For them no more the blazing hearth shall burn,
Or busy housewife ply her evening care;
No children run to lisp their sire's return,
Or climb his knees the envied kiss to share.

Oft did the harvest to their sickle yield;
Their furrow oft the stubborn glebe has broke;
How jocund did they drive their team afield!
How bowed the woods beneath their sturdy stroke!

Let not ambition mock their useful toil,
Their homely joys, and destiny obscure;
Nor grandeur hear, with a disdainful smile,
The short and simple annals of the poor.

The boast of heraldry, the pomp of power,
And all that beauty, all that wealth e'er gave,
Await, alike, the inevitable hour;—
The paths of glory lead but to the grave.

Can storied urn, or animated bust,
Back to its mansion call the fleeting breath?
Can Honor's voice provoke the silent dust,
Or Flattery soothe the dull, cold ear of death?

Perhaps, in this neglected spot, is laid
Some heart, once pregnant with celestial fire;
Hands, that the rod of empire might have swayed,
Or waked to ecstasy the living lyre."

— Gray's "Elegy written in a Country Church Yard."

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There are eighteen cemeteries in the township of Ridgefield. The first cemetery, or as it is called in the town records "A Burying Ground," was set aside at the lower end of Main Street when the town was founded. Another Town Burying Ground was established January 27th, 1835, by vote of the town. This burying ground is the oldest part of the Titicus Cemetery. Mapleshade Cemetery, adjoining the above, was laid out in 1850. The Hurlbutt cemetery, adjoining the old cemetery on the west, was laid out before 1860. This cemetery is the narrow strip facing the North Salem Road just south of Fairlawn Cemetery. The former Gage Cemetery, now Scott's Cemetery, north of Mapleshade and adjoining, was laid out in 1876; the Lounsbury-Rockwell family Cemetery was laid out in 1894, and Fairlawn cemetery in 1909. Thus it will be noted that the town cemetery of 1735, Mapleshade, Scott, Hurlbutt, Lounsbury-Rockwell Family cemetery and Fairlawn are in one group, making the whole, one large cemetery.

St. Mary's Cemetery was laid out in 1882. The Ridgebury Cemetery was established on December 19th, 1743, when at a town meeting "it was ordered ye spot of Ground lying at ye Northwest corner of Joseph Northrop's home lott in ye New Pattent be a burying place for ye people of ye New Pattent."

The other cemeteries in the town are the Branchville Cemetery, near Branchville Station; the Beers' Cemetery at the top of Branchville hill which contains about twenty stones; the Seymour Cemetery on Olmsted Lane with about fifteen stones; the Davis Cemetery on Silver Spring Road just near the edge of Wilton Line containing about twenty-five stones; the Smith Cemetery in West Lane (near the present home of Mrs. Henry C. Swords), containing fourteen stones; the Old Florida Cemetery back in the lot north of the road leading to the railroad track from the four corners on the state road in Florida District. Five lettered stones still remain in this cemetery.

About ninety years ago many of the bodies in this cemetery were removed to the present Florida Cemetery, which is on the east side of the state road between Branchville and Farmingville. This Florida Cemetery was laid out about 1835 and contains between fifty and sixty stones. Bennett's Farms Cemetery in which the Selleck family and others are buried, contains about fifteen lettered stones. Another small cemetery lies on the westerly side of the road just north of the present home of Walter Hampden in Scotland District. This is the cemetery of the Smith family, which resided in that section many years ago. There are no lettered stones left, but field stones indicate the spot. The New York State line passes through this cemetery.

Two stones are still to be seen in the old cemetery at the lower end of the village street. One marks the grave of Sarah, wife of Richard Osburn, who died Nov. 6, 1719. The lettering upon the stone at the present time is undecipherable. Richard Osburn died at the age of one hundred and two, and his remains probably lie in an unmarked grave beside those of his wife. The other stone in this burying ground is of slate, and finely lettered. It marks the grave of Captain Matthew Benedict, and the inscription is as follows:

Here lies
the Body of Capt.
Matthew Benedict
Who Departed this life
July 7, 1757 in ye
54th Year of his Age.

It is thought that other stones that have been removed from this cemetery may be found and restored to the place from whence they came. Many of them have been used in the construction of cellars, stone walls and stepping stones.

The oldest lettered monument in the town is that of Reverend Thomas Hawley who is buried in the old town

cemetery in Titicus. The inscription upon his stone is as follows:

HERE LYES BURIED
THE BODY OF Y^e REV.
THOMAS HAULEY
PASTOR OF Y^e CHURCH
AT RIDGEFIELD
NOV. Y^e 8, 1738.
AGED 42 YEARS

A few of the inscriptions upon stones in this cemetery are given:

Here lies the
Body of M^{rs} Abigail
Hauley Relict of y^e Rev^d
M^r Thomas Hauley
who died April y^e 17
1749 aged 64 years

Here lyes Buried
the Body of Capt.
Thomas Hauley
who departed this Life
April y^e 26 1765 in y^e
44th year of His Age.

In Memory of
Ebenezer son of
Tho^s & Keziah Hawley
who died in New York
Aug. 9 1807 in the
17 year of his age.

—
This stone in memory
of a lovely youth doth stand.
Who fell an early prey
by deaths unerring hand
He was his friends delight
his parents joy he prov'd
And he died lamented
as he lived belov'd.

In Memory of
Elizabeth, wife of
Ezekiel Wilson
& former wife of
Capt. Tho^s Hauley, Decs^d
who died Feb. 22 1807
in the 82 year
of her age.

Keziah
wife of Thomas Hawley
Died Oct. 12 1854
in her 97 year

Thomas Hawley
(Revolutionary soldier)
died Nov. 19 1840
aged 86 years

In Memory
Tolcott, son of
(Revolutionary soldier)
Thos. & Elizabeth Hawley
who died Sept. 11, 1807
in the 45 year
of his age.

In MEMORY
of the Rev^d.
(Chaplain in French & Indian War)
JONATHAN INGERSOLL Pastor
of y^e 1st Church in Ridgefield
who deceased Oct. 2^d AD
1778 in y^e 65th year of his
Age & 40 of his Ministry.

IN Memory of
DORCAS widow of the
Rev Jonathan Ingersoll dec^d
who died
Sept 29 1811
in the 86 year
of her age

In Memory of
Matthew Olmstead
(Revolutionary soldier)
who died
Feb 16 1817
aged 87 years

In Memory of
Benjamin Stebbins
who died
Feb. 26 1803
in the 82 year
of his age

In Memory of
ELIZABETH, widow of
Benjamin Stebbins
who died
March 11 1825
Æ 99 years

Here lies
the body of
Mr. WILLIAM LEE
who departed this life
January the 6th AD 1791
in the 82^d year of his age

In Memory of SARA^h
the wife of William Lee
who died June y^e 25 1785
Aged 75 years
They that are but prepared to die
May triumph in that Hour
Nor fear the force of Death to try
Since Jesus spoiled his power

William Lee
(Died in Revolutionary War)
died Sept 1776
Æ 23

In memory of
DANIEL LEE
who died
Oct 14 1833
in the 89 year
of his age

In Memory of
ESTHER
wife of Daniel Lee
who died
March 3 1798
in the 54 year
of her age

IN Memory of
BRADLEY LEE
who died at Natchez
Mississippi Sept 5 1823
aged 59 y.

Here lyes BURIED
y^e Body of DEACON
THOMAS SMITH
who Died Sep^t 17th
ANNO DOM 1743 in v^e
67th YEAR of his AGE

SARAH RESSEGUE
DAU^t TO M^r ALEXA^r
& M^{rs} SARAH RESSEGUE
Dec^d FEB^{ry} y^e 28
1 7 3 9
IN Y^e 19 year
of her age

Here Lyes Buried
y^e Body of Mr.
Timothy Keeler
who DIED Aug^t 30
1748 in the 53
year of His Age

IN MEMORY of
MARTHA wife of
AMBROSE OLMSTEAD
who died
Aug^t 4 1814
Æ 91

In MEMORY of
Widow SARAH KEELER
who departed this life
March the 10th A.D. 1787
in the 90th year of her Age.

HERE lies The
Body of mr daniel
Sherwood who died
. . . 1749
aged 63
(Footstone is marked
C. S.)

Here lies the
Body of
RUTH
wife of Daniel Sherwood
who died December y^e
11, 1748, age 58
(Footstone is marked R. S.)

In Memory of
Capt. Vivus Dauchy
who died
Dec. 16 1795
aged 88 years

Mary, wife of
Capt. VIVUS Dauchy
Died May 22, 1816
Æ 90

Samuel Resseguie
died at New Albany
Indiana Territory
July 18, 1815
in his 30 year.

In Memory of
LEVI Keeler
(Revolutionary soldier)
who died
May 5 1812
Æ 54

In Memory of four
sons of
Elisha and Charity Hawley
whose remains lie
interred in various
parts of the world.

Elisha died at Stamford Con
Sept. 20 1819 ae 31

Thomas Chauncey
died in the city of N. York
Sept. 27 1821 ae 19

Daniel
died in Leghorn, Italy
Jan. 5 1824 ae 27

Stiles
a candidate for the gospel
ministry was drowned in
attempting to cross the
Kaskaskia river Il.
Jan. 18 1830 ae 32
He was laboring in the
cause of Sabbath Schools
in behalf of the board of
U. S. S. Union

In Memory of
Elisha Hawley
(Revolutionary soldier)
who died April 18 1850
aged 91 yrs 1 MO & 9 days
who for 60 years served as
Deacon in the 1st Congregational
Church in Ridgefield

Charity Hawley
died
July 20 1860
aged
99 years 7 months
10 dys

Elijah Hawley
Died Aug 17 1840
A Student in Yale
College
In his 20th year

Phebe, wife of
Capt. Benjamin Jones
who died
Jan 28 1870
Æ 98 years

This MONUMENT
is erected in memory of
IRA KEELER
who in the 29 year of his
age & on the 23 of Dec 1818
was shipwrecked off Cape
May when every person
on board perished

In memory of
Delight Benedict
who died June 10, 1812
Æ 54

In Memory of
JOSIAH LOBDELL
who died
June 4 1837
aged 77 years

In Memory of
RHEUAMY
Widow of
ALEXANDER RESSEGUIE
who died
Dec 17 1859
91 y'rs 4 mo's
& 1 day

SUSAN
wife of
SAMUEL BAILEY
Died April 12 1889
Æ 100 yrs & 1 mo
The rose may fade, the lilly die
But flowers immortal bloom on high

JULIA A.
wife of
Mortimer Jennings
DIED
March 8 1857
Aged 24 Yrs 9 mo
& 20 d's
(Formerly a daguerreotype
was imbedded in this tomb-
stone. After remaining there
fifty years, it was broken by
some unknown person.)

DIED
Oct. 21, 1289
MIRIAM WIFE OF
Josiah Lobdell
Æ 67 YEARS
Her face was tranquil and serene
No terror in her looks was seen
Her Saviour's smiles dispel'd the gloom
And smoothed her passage to the tomb.
(1289 is engraved on this stone)

In Memory of
BENJAMIN SHERWOOD
(Revolutionary soldier)
who died
April 10 1840
aged 87 years

In Memory of
SARAH
wife of
BENJAMIN SHERWOOD
who died
Feb. 25 1848
Aged 93 yrs 10 mo
& 11 days

JACOB RESSEGUIE
(Revolutionary soldier)
DIED
JULY 24 1835
Æ 83 years

SARAH
wife of JACOB RESSEGUIE
died June 27 1827
aged 78

In Titicus Cemetery is a monument inscribed as follows:

Erected to the Memory of
Capt. BURR SCOTT
who died at
BRIDGETON, BARBADOES
Jan. 22, 1830
Aged 32 yrs.

(Capt. Burr Scott died at Bridgton of a fever. A monument is erected to his memory in Ridgefield and another in North Salem, but none over his grave in the Barbadoes. Capt. Scott was Master of a merchant vessel plying between the United States and the West Indies.)

Following inscriptions are taken from stones in Ridgebury Cemetery:

Here lies Buried the
Body of ELIZABETH ROCKWELL
the wife of David Rockwell
the daughter of Thomas &
Experience Hyatt she died
Phebruary 13 1758
in the 47 year
of her age

OBIL ROCKWELL
died
Oct. 19th 1870
In the 94th year
of his age

In Memory of
Eliphalet Brush
who died
June 8 1846
in the 98 year
of his age

In Memory of
Timothy Benedict son
of Mr. Timothy & Mrs.
Sarah Benedict who
died June 21 1757 in ye
17th year of his age

DELAZON
son of
BENJAMIN D &
MARY T NORRIS
died
April 29 1855
aged 9 years

In Memory of
Capt. Nehemiah Keeler
who died
Oct 28 1838
in the 87 year of
his age

In Memory of
Henry Whitney
who died
Feb. 14 1813
Aged 66 yrs

In Memory of
Benjamin Benedict
Deacon in the first church in
Ridgefield
Who departed this life
July 3 1773
in the 95 Year of his age

The following list of soldiers and sailors buried in our town has been prepared with great care. Many brave men lie in unmarked and unknown graves.

Old Section — Titicus Cemetery
French and Indian War
Reverend Jonathan Ingersoll

Revolutionary soldiers buried in Old Section, Titicus Cemetery:

Doctor Amos Baker	Timothy Keeler, Jr.
John Baldwin	Thaddeus Keeler
Jesse Benedict	Lieutenant Joshua King
John Benedict	Seth Lee
Seth Bouton	William Lee
Colonel Philip Burr Bradley	Jeremiah Mead
Wakemen Burrett	Thomas Mead
Captain Jonah Foster	Abraham Nash
Abner Gilbert	Jacob Nash
David Gilbert	Isaac Olmsted
Ebenezer Hawley	Jered Olmsted
Elisha Hawley	Matthew Olmsted
Talcott Hawley	James Partrick
Thomas Hawley	Alexander Resseguie
Lieutenant John Jones	Jacob Resseguie
Levi Keeler	James Resseguie
Matthew Keeler	Lieutenant James Rockwell
Philip Keeler	William Rockwell
Timothy Keeler	David Scott

James Scott	Daniel Smith
Benjamin Sherwood	Elijah Smith
Joseph Stebbins	Hezekiah Smith
Asa Scribner (grave unmarked and not located)	Jacob Smith, Jr.
Samuel Stebbins	Michael Warren
Azariah Smith	Thaddeus Whitlock
Benjamin Smith	Ezekiel Wilson

Revolutionary veterans buried in Mapleshade Cemetery — Titicus:

Ebenezer Jones	Job Smith
Nathan Smith	

Revolutionary veteran buried in *Old* Florida Cemetery:

Sergt. Hugh Cain

Revolutionary veterans buried in *New* Florida Cemetery:

Thomas Couch	Hezekiah Hawley
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Revolutionary veterans buried in Ridgebury Cemetery:

Stephen Allen	Uriah DeForest
Gamaliel Benedict	Benjamin Fowler
Josiah Bennett	Captain Nehemiah Keeler
Thomas Boughton	Benjamin Lynes
Eliphalet Brush	Matthew Northrop
Daniel Coley	Sergt. Thomas St. John
Captain Elihu DeForest	Captain Henry Whitney

Veterans of the War of 1812 buried in Old Section, Titicus Cemetery:

Harvey Rich	Ezra Smith
Thaddeus Whitlock	Elisha Hawley

Veteran of the War of 1812 buried in Mapleshade Cemetery:

Walter Dauchy

Veterans of the War of 1812 buried in Florida Cemetery:

Ebenezer Hawley

James Jones

Veterans of the War of 1812 buried in Ridgebury Cemetery:

Major Boughton

Adoniram Keeler

Civil War veterans buried in Titicus Cemeteries:

Tredwell Avery
W. Charles Avery
George W. Banker
William E. Barker
George W. Baxter
Samuel B. Baxter
Charles Beers
Cyrus M. Benjamin
Charles Betts (Confederate)
William W. Bouton
Daniel B. Bradley
William E. Brothwell
George Brower
Charles F. Brown
James Burns
Daniel D. Burr
Caleb Burt
Charles I. Burt
Stephen Burt
Joseph B. Butler
Augustus Campbell
Sylvester Canfield
William E. Casey
George L. Dann
Jacob L. Dauchy

Daniel DeForest
Henry W. DeForest
William DeForest
Nirum Dykeman
Ezra Lee Edmond
(Killed and buried on field
of battle.)
John D. Edmonds
Selah Gage
Enoch Gilbert
John Gilbert
Smith Gilbert
George Gray
Fred A. Grumman
Joseph Hawkins
John W. Holmes
John W. Hoyt
Warren Hoyt
John J. Jarvis
William H. Jennings
Peter Johnson
William M. Jones
Edgar Keeler
Henry Keeler
Henry W. Keeler

Ira Keeler	John A. Phillips
Rufus D. Keeler	Charles O. Platt
Norman Kellogg	Charles Rasco
Henry Knapp	James Rasco
Aaron W. Lee	Rich, Jared
Andrew Lockwood	Andrew J. Sarles
William H. Lockwood	Francis E. Seymour
William C. Loder	Daniel Sherwood
Phineas C. Lounsbury	Allen Smith
Solomon Mills	David Edson Smith
Alsop L. Monroe	Fred L. Smith
Thomas J. Norton	William Stebbins
Charles Olmsted	Irving Stone
Christopher S. Olmstead	James F. Thompson
Peter M. Osborn	Reverend James Tuttle-Smith
William H. Perry	Rufus Warren
	Sylvester Williams

Civil War veterans buried in St. Mary's Cemetery:

Bernard Carroll	James Enright
Michael Costello	Patrick Lannon
Levi Dann	John McConnell

Civil War veterans buried in Ridgebury Cemetery:

Jacob Baskey	George W. Halstead
Alfred Bennett	Daniel B. Jackson
	Richard Morrison

Civil War veterans buried in Florida Cemetery:

Nathan Couch	David Hendricks
Sylvester Godfrey	Charles E. Jennings

Civil War veteran buried in Davis Cemetery on Silver Spring Road:

Albert N. Davis

Civil War veteran buried in Bennett's Farms Cemetery:

Nephi Whitlock	Joseph H. Whitlock
	(Stone erected in memoriam)

Civil War veterans buried in Branchville Cemetery:

Charles H. Albin	George W. Gould
Nathan Albin	John L. Godfrey
Sylvester Albin	Henry Hohmann
William Avent	James F. Jelliff
Jonathan Betts	Aaron Sidney Jennings
Waterman Bates	Lewis Knapp
Ira T. Barr	William Morgan
Fred Bennett	Benjamin Monroe
Aaron M. Bennett	Major David H. Miller
Henry Brown	Burr Mills
Moses Comstock	Charles Olmstead
Henry Crosby	Nathan Perry
Hiram Cobleigh	Elisha Parkington
William H. Canfield	Eugene Parkington
Aaron H. Davis	William B. Smith
Elias Hull Edmonds	Anton Stommel
Joel M. Foster	Jacob B. St. John
Jesse B. Fillow	John M. Walters
William Grant	

Mexican Border War veteran buried in Branchville Cemetery:

Frank Williams

World War veterans buried in Titicus Cemetery:

Lieutenant John Earl Lathrop	Simpson Lynch
Killed in action Sept. 29,	Frederick G. Mead
1918, at LeCatelet, France.	Richard C. Osborn
George Gilbert	Lawrence Partrick
Gilbert R. Lowe	George Keeler Robinson

World War veterans buried in St. Mary's Cemetery:

Robert E. Dunlop	Edward M. Roach
	James P. Walsh

World War veterans buried in Branchville Cemetery:

Charles R. Fredericksen	Carl Arvid Johnson
Victor Johnson	

Eliphalet Brown, a member of Commodore Matthew Perry's expedition to Japan in 1853, is buried in Mapleshade Cemetery, Titicus. Mr. Brown was the artist of this expedition. His sketches in color made upon the occasion of this visit depict in detail (at that date) every form of life, costume and topography in Japan with which the expedition was brought in contact. Mr. Brown is buried in the Coolidge family plot. He died January 23rd, 1886, in his seventieth year.

At a Town Meeting held December 18th, 1749, the town voted "At said meeting by their Major Vote ordered a black Broad Cloth pall to be procured for y^e use of y^e town upon y^e Town's cost."

At a town meeting held December 1st, 1806, it was voted "that the Selectmen be directed to furnish necessary tools to be used at each of the Burying Yards in this Town for the purpose of Digging Graves."

CHAPTER XXXV

SKETCHES

The Districts of Farmingville and Limestone lie in the eastern part of the township. Farmingville was formerly called Woodchuck, because of the great numbers of these rodents which have always thrived there. Reverend Dr. Samuel Peters in his "History of Connecticut," published in London in 1781, gives the following description of the woodchuck:

"The woodchuck, erroneously called the badger by some persons, is of the size of a large raccoon, in form resembles a Guinea pig, and, when eating, makes a noise like a hog whence he is named woodchuck, or chuck of wood. His legs are short, but his claws sharp, teeth strong and courage great on occasions of self-defence. He burrows in the earth, feeds on clover and pumpkin during summer, and sleeps all the winter. His flesh is good to eat, and his skin makes excellent leather."

The district was later called Farmingville, a name that was well chosen. Sixty and seventy years ago, the fields in that neighborhood teemed with grain. Crops of rye, corn, oats, buckwheat, and flax were grown on every farm. The hillsides now grown up in many places to sumac and other bushes, waved with the growing grain. Cattle for the dairy and for beef were raised in large numbers, and every farmer had pigs enough to supply his family with pork and hams throughout the year, and some left over to market. The rocky pastures furnished food for hundreds of sheep, and the farmer's wife raised large flocks of turkeys. There was always the best of food in abundance.

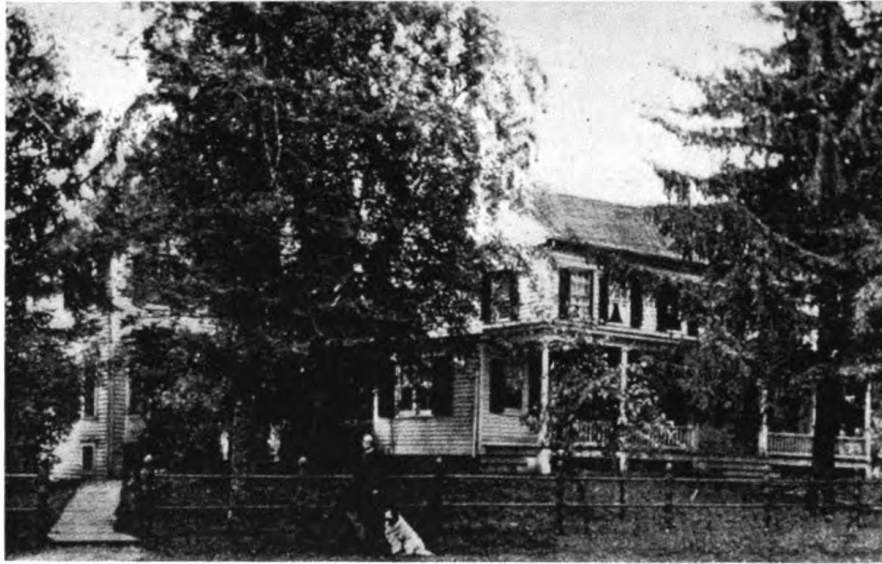
On a trip through the neighborhood in the 1850's, one would pass the farms of Nathan Lounsbury, Aaron

Lee, Edwin Lee, William Lee, Benjamin Lee, Solomon Brown, Colonel Phineas Chapman, the Burrs, Blackmans, Gilbert, Banks, Beers, W. Burr Gregory and William Hawkins. All worked and tilled the soil.

The major portion of Great Swamp lies in Farmingville. This swamp is a natural home for game birds, but in the early days game was found on every side and the whirr of the wings of the startled grouse or quail could be heard as the farmer passed through his fields.

It was a great event when the surveyors drove stakes for the building of the Danbury and Norwalk Railroad, which was constructed in 1852. Sanford's Station (now known as Topstone) was an important shipping depot for milk. For many years nearly every farmer in this section carried a load of milk to this station daily, its destination being New York City. Among these farmers were Henry Burr Platt, Ebenezer F. Foster, Jarvis Selleck, Nathaniel S. Hull, J. Lambert Burr, and the Lees. Nathan Lounsbury made shoes, employing several men at this work. The shoes were sold in New York City. Mrs. Solomon Brown had a loom and wove cloth, carpets and other fabrics. The Browns lived on the corner which is the present home of Louis M. Starr. On the hill east of Frederick C. Lee's was the old home of Harry Gilbert, a carpenter and builder, and the father of William H. and Aaron B. Gilbert. In those days every house-wife cherished her set of silver spoons. These were made in Ridgefield by the local silver-smith, Isaac Lewis.

One day when the Gilbert family was absent from their home, someone entered the house and stole the silver spoons. One handle was found near the chopping block at the wood pile where an axe had evidently been used to cut the spoon in two. For many years that was the last that was heard of the silver spoons until 1856 when *New Street* was built. This is the road running to the Danbury turnpike. While digging near the residence of



THE HICKORIES, LOUNSBURY HOMESTEAD, FARMINGVILLE,
Home of Governor George Edward Lounsbury, Governor of Connecticut 1899-1901.
Here he died in 1904.



ANOTHER ILLUSTRATION OF THE HICKORIES.

Edwin A. Lee, the next house easterly, a flat stone was lifted and beneath it were found the silver spoons, six bowls and five handles, just as they were placed there by the thief. Why they were hidden there, and why they were never removed will ever be a mystery. It is assumed that the thief either forgot under just what stone he hid his booty, or else became terror-stricken and was afraid to go after it. It is fitting that here we should say that Mrs. Edwin A. Lee was a poetess. She received recognition from Congress for a poem she wrote on the death of President Taylor. Later Harry Gilbert moved to Limestone, to the present place of Mrs. Earles F. Holmes. Here he built a cider mill upon the site of an old carding mill. The Browns the Lounsburies and the Lees exerted an influence for good in this community. Upon one of the clapboards on the inside of the old Lounsbury house was painted the following inscription: "*This house was built in 1764.*" In this house was born Phineas C. Lounsbury, the youngest of the family, and the only child born to this couple in Ridgefield, their other children being born in Pound Ridge.

In the "Historical Papers" of Mrs. Mary Everest Rockwell, of Meriden, is the following:

"It was a New England boy who replied to a stranger's sneering question, 'What is raised in this place?'

"'We raise men, Sir' he replied.

"This anecdote can be aptly applied to any town in the state of Connecticut, but especially to Ridgefield. Many men, influential in the world's progress, have gone from this quiet spot. The town is frequently called 'The Home of Governors', two Ridgefield boys having served their state as its chief executive. The Honorable Phineas C. Lounsbury, governor of Connecticut from 1887 to 1889, was president of the Merchants Exchange National Bank of New York City. Governor Lounsbury's brother, the Honorable George E. Lounsbury, was state senator from 1895 to 1899, governor from 1889 to 1901, president of the First National Bank, and senior member of the firm of Lounsbury, Mathewson and Company, shoe manufac-

turers of South Norwalk. He died August 16th, 1904, at the 'Hickories', his life-long home.

"Governor Lounsbury gave utterance to a guiding principle of his life in his Thanksgiving proclamation,* November 11, 1899, when he wrote: 'On that day let the hand of charity spread a feast in every home of poverty, for it is more blessed to give than to receive, and no sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving can be more acceptable to God than deeds of charity done for the poor and unfortunate.' Many a poor family mourns the untimely death of a generous benefactor, and the town laments the passing of an honored and useful citizen."

The neighbors of George E. Lounsbury can testify that he was always ready to help the unfortunate. It was his custom to drive about the town after night-fall, choosing this time to hide his identity while aiding the needy. The driver was instructed to open the door, enter, and deposit the gift upon the table, and come out without saying a word. Sometimes it was a quarter of beef, sides of

*The following is the full text of Governor Lounsbury's Thanksgiving Proclamation of 1899:

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
by His Excellency
GEORGE E. LOUNSBURY,
Governor,

A PROCLAMATION.

In accordance with a custom so fitting in itself and so hallowed by long and glad observance as to become an unwritten law of the commonwealth, I hereby appoint Thursday, the thirtieth of November, as a day of Thanksgiving and Prayer.

And I recommend to all the people of this state that on that day, in public assemblies in the churches and in joyful reunions around family hearthstones, they give thanks to Almighty God for the blessings with which He has filled and crowned the year.

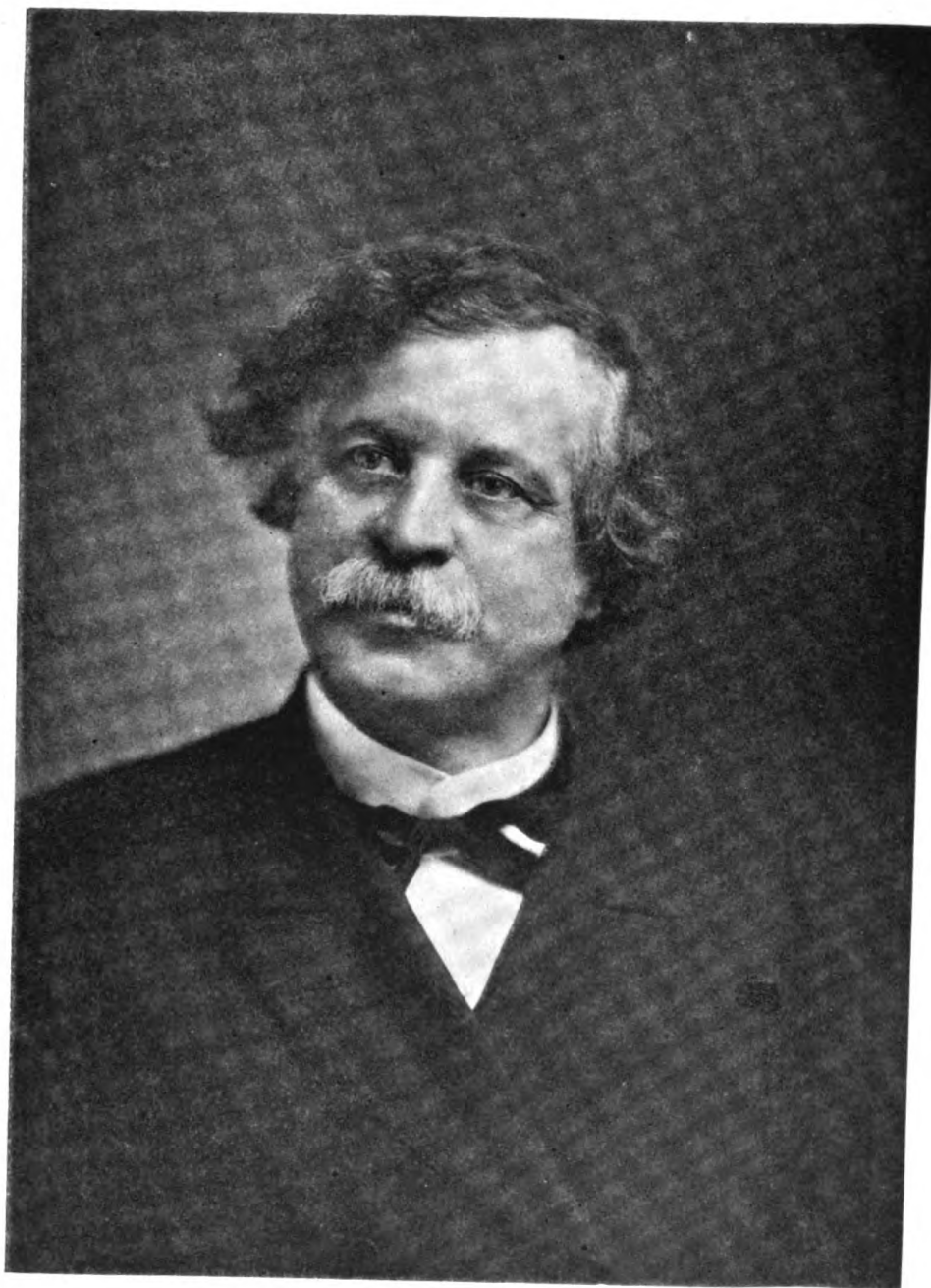
On that day let the hand of charity spread a feast in every home of poverty, for it is more blessed to give than to receive, and no sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving can be more acceptable to God than deeds of charity done for the poor and the unfortunate.

And let all prepare for this state festival in the light of the truth that this commonwealth and this republic shall stand, not so much by splendor of arms and power of written statutes, as by the faith of the people in one Infinite Father and by their feeling that they all are brethren.

Given under my hand and the seal of the state, this eleventh day of November, in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and ninety-nine and of the independence of the United States the one hundred and twenty-fourth.

GEORGE E. LOUNSBURY.

By His Excellency's Command:
Huber Clark, Secretary of State.



George E. Lounsbury.

Governor of Connecticut 1899-1901.

sparerib, bags of potatoes or apples. No one knew of the gift, unless the recipient chose to tell.

On the third of July, Mr. Lounsbury would purchase a box of firecrackers. These boxes held forty packs. The packs were wrapped up separately, making several packages, and after alighting from the train, a tour of the district was made, and every child within its precincts made happy with a gift of a few packs. The Lounsbury farm was noted for its big, fine apples, Northern Spies and Baldwins; and in the spring Roxbury Russets were handed out by Mr. Lounsbury. When George Lounsbury was senator, he would often dodge into the Senate Chamber at an early hour and place a big red apple upon each senator's desk. The employees at the Capitol were never forgotten, for his capacious pockets and hand bag always bulged with red apples. On the train it was his custom to remember conductor, brakeman, newsboy and his friends with one or more of these big red apples. If the apple was not as large as he generally gave away, he handed out two. The following verses were found among his private papers after his death:

"Dear Apple-Tree, dear apple tree,
Please throw an apple down to me;
Yours are so large and fair and round,
Please drop me one upon the ground."
"Oh, no my child, that cannot be,"
The old tree seemed to say to me,
"My apples, large and round and fair,
Look better high up in the air."
"Oh, apple-tree, dear apple-tree!
If you mean all you say to me,
Please shake your head real hard for no,
And I'll believe it's really so."
And so he shook his head at me, —
That dear old, stupid apple-tree! —
Down fell the apples at my feet,
And we had all that we could eat.

— St. Nicholas.

Mr. Lounsbury graduated from Yale College in 1863 and was salutatorian of his class. He earned money for his tuition by teaching in the Bald Hill school in Wilton, and the Flat Rock School in Ridgefield. Later, he was Professor of Ancient Languages at a preparatory school in New Brighton, Pennsylvania, teaching Latin, Greek and Hebrew. He also taught in the Jackson Academy in Danbury. He entertained many distinguished people at his home, other governors of the state and many high in the professional and business world. Among these was an intimate college friend, Marion F. Mulkey of Portland, Oregon, whose son recently represented that state in the United States Senate. After graduating from Yale, Mr. Lounsbury entered the Berkeley Divinity School at Middletown, Connecticut, where he studied for the priesthood of the Episcopalian Church. He was ordained a Deacon and was called to Thompsonville, which parish he served, also officiating at Suffield. On account of an affection of the throat he was obliged to give up the ministry.

The travel to and from the village is by the "Upper" way through Great Swamp or the "Lower" way, through Ivy Hill. Over a century ago the first house in Farmingville beyond Great Swamp was the Lee homestead occupied by Daniel Lee. Among the old families in the Town of Ridgefield none is more prominent than that of William Lee and his descendants.

Daniel Lee,* born 1744, married Esther Banks, born 1745, a niece of Colonel Philip Burr Bradley.

Many of the sons and daughters of Ridgefield have achieved fame and fortune in various parts of the world. Among these must be mentioned David Lee, born in Farmingville District in 1787, the youngest child of Daniel and

*In 1918 two copper pennies, both bearing the date of 1787, were found near the old house of Daniel Lee. One was a Connecticut cent, with General Washington's head on one side; the other was evidently a United States coin, having on one side a shield and the words "E Pluribus Unum" and on the reverse a liberty cap above a plow with a coulter.



P. L. Lounsbury

Governor of Connecticut 1887-1889.

Esther Lee. As a youth he was employed as a clerk in the old store kept by Abner Gilbert at the north end of the street. From there he went to New York City and became a prosperous merchant. He married Ann Philips.

Among their children were Josephine Louise Lee, born May 28th, 1833, and Mary Esther Lee, born October 3, 1838. Another daughter, Abby (whose name was afterwards changed to Blanche) married Captain Murray of the British Navy. Seldom have Americans married into such high social position as these sisters. While visiting abroad with their sister Blanche, Josephine and Mary Esther were often brought into contact with royalty.

From "Gothaisches Genealogisches Taschenbuch der Freiherrlichen Häuser," of 1895, we find that "Johann August, Freiherr von Waechter-Lautenbach (born 3 April 1807, died 3 August 1879) Fideikommissherr, Kön. württemb. Kammerherr, Staatsrat und Staatsminister a. D.; married 19 December 1855 at Paris, Josephine Louise Lee, born 28 May 1833 in New York. Children: 1. Wilhelmine Pauline Blanche Josephine Louise Sophie, born 27 October 1856, married 2 October 1879 at Lautenbach, Julius, Freiherr von Palm, Kön. preuss. Rittmeister a. D. 2. Oleg-Ludwig David August Carl Emil, born 9 March 1861, Fideikommissherr, Kön. preuss. Leutnant der Reserve des ostpreuss. Dragonerregts Nr. 10, married 19 December 1883, Clara Concha, born 18 September 1859. (Berlin.)"

Copied from "Diet. of Royal Lineage," by C. M. Allstrom, Chicago, 1904, we have the following item: "Friedrich Emil August, Prince of Noer, 1864, was born 23 August 1800, died 2 July 1865. He married 1st, 1829, Henriette, Countess of Daneskjöld, born 9 May, 1806, died 10 September 1858. He married 2nd, 1864, Marie Esther, born 3 October 1838, daughter of Mr. David Lee of New York. She remarried 1874 Alfred, Count of Waldersee." The above Friedrich was the son of Christian

II, born 1765, died 1814, Duke of Holstein, Augustenburg, 1794-1814, who married 1786, Louisa of Denmark.

In "Titled Americans. A list of American ladies who have married foreigners of rank," published by Street and Smith, New York, 1890, is the following quotation: "Princess Frederick, widow of Prince Frederick of Schleswig-Holstein-Sonderburg-Augustenburg, who was created Prince of Noer by the Emperor of Austria on the 28th of September, 1864, and who died at Bayreuth, Syria, 2 July, 1865; and formerly Miss Mary Esther Lee, daughter of the late David Lee, Esq., of New York, born October 3, 1838. Married, 2nd, April 14, 1874, to General Alfred, Count Waldersee, Aide-de-camp-General to the Emperor of Germany, Chief of the General Staff of the German Army, Chevalier of Justice of the Order of St. John, born April 1832. Residence: Berlin."

The Count Alfred von Waldersee commanded the allied international forces in the Boxer Rebellion in China from September 27, 1900, to June 4th, 1901. His activities in the Boxer Rebellion contributed largely to a speedy adjustment of difficulties, while he was at the same time successful in preserving harmony among the Allies. Count von Waldersee served in the Franco-Prussian War as Chief of Staff to the Grand Duke of Mecklenburg-Schwerin. In 1880 he became a General, and in 1882 a Lieutenant-General. Upon Count von Moltke's resignation as Chief of the General Staff, Count von Waldersee was chosen his successor, and in 1900 he was made Field Marshal of the Empire. Count von Waldersee died at Hanover, March 5th, 1904. His widow, the Countess Mary Esther von Waldersee, died at her home in Hanover July 4th, 1914.

In 1903 Her Excellency Baroness von Waechter-Lautenbach, widow of the distinguished Minister of Foreign Affairs at the Court of Wurtemberg, and her sister, Her Excellency Countess Von Waldersee, visited Ridgefield.

The old Gilbert store at the north end of the street was visited by them, although it had been moved back and incorporated by George H. Newton, then residing at this place, into his garage. The two sisters were accompanied from New York City by Charles Lee Rockwell, and after stopping to look at the store and visiting the cemetery, they all drove over to Farmingville District. In Farmingville, they visited the scene of their father's birth. The old house was standing at the time. They continued their journey through this district, looking at the old homes of the Lee family. In 1926 Countess Josephine is reported as still living in Hanover at the advanced age of ninety-three years.

In front of the Hawkins' place, were two elms that had been set out by Elijah Lee. These trees grew to immense size and the last one was cut down in 1913. The two trees were named Elijah and Isabel, after Elijah Lee and his wife. This couple were married April 15th, 1786, and the trees were set out soon after this date. Seth Lee, a brother to Elijah, lived farther down the street. His farm ran back to the easterly slope of Pine Hill. Silver was discovered in this section of the farm and Seth Lee made a trip to New York City with specimens of the ore. While there, he was attracted by a large crowd, and going up to ascertain the trouble, found that a person in the acute stages of small pox had fallen in the street. He contracted the disease and died in his home in Farmingville, October 14th, 1790, at the age of thirty-five.

Upon his death, his son, Chapman Lee, lived with his Uncle Elijah.

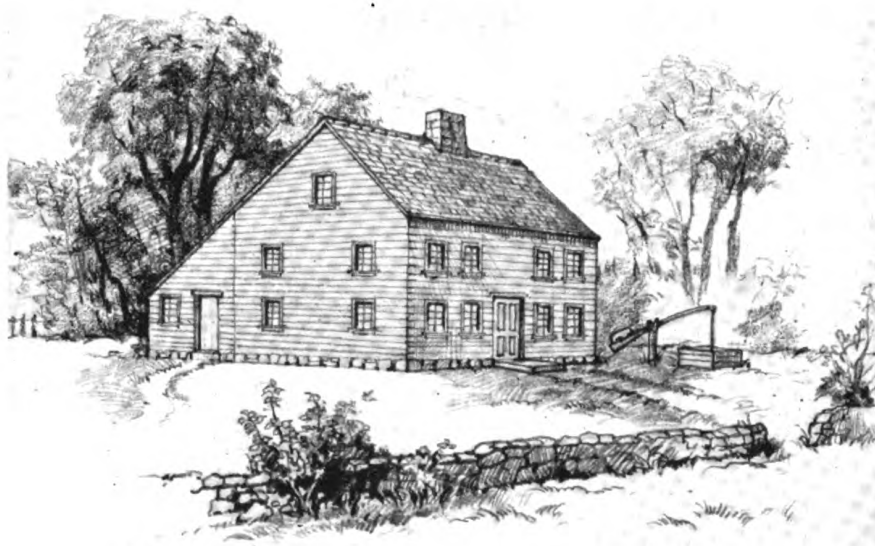
The old saw mill under the hill in Farmingville was run by Ulysses Sunderland. He lived in the house now the home of Horace Moran, a member of the celebrated Moran family, renowned as being among the greatest of American painters. After the death of Mr. Sunderland, the family moved away, and his children and grand-children

have distinguished themselves in the business and professional world.

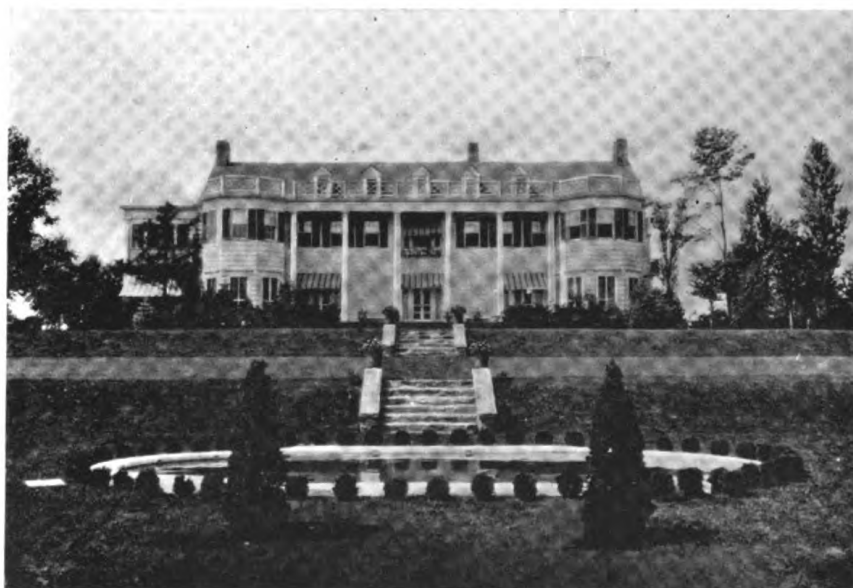
On Cain's Hill lived David Barlow Burr and one incident in his life, trivial as it may seem, must be mentioned. At the age of eighty-two Mr. Burr first tasted ice cream, the day being the occasion of the golden wedding of Mr. and Mrs. Nathan Lounsbury in July, 1888. 1878

Mr. Burr was unable to attend the celebration but a large bowl heaped with ice cream was sent to him at his home.

Limestone District is the adjoining neighbor to Farmingville on the north, and holds a dear spot in the memory. Limestone is so called because of that mineral found in such quantities in this District. At the present time, there are a dozen ruins of old dams on the Norwalk River, where formerly stood mills, to serve the people with flour and cloth. This particular section of the Norwalk River is locally known as the Limestone River. In the early part of the nineteenth century a survey was made, and there was much talk of digging a canal from tide-water in Norwalk to Danbury. The waters of Umpawaug Pond were to be used in connection with the project. The Taylor family were interested in many of the mills. The old carding mill, which stood just above the present home of Mrs. Earles F. Holmes, was run by Ezra Smith, great uncle of "Painter" Samuel R. Smith. The latter also operated a mill, manufacturing axe handles. This mill was the largest in the district. Cloth was also woven here. In those days pins were almost unknown, and thorns were used in their place at the mill to fasten the rolls of cloth on frames or posts. Across the road from the present home of William Harvey Smith in the open field, may be seen several large thorn trees. These bushes were brought from Litchfield County and set out in order to obtain the thorns for use in the mill. The thorns, being gathered, were boiled in oil to toughen them.



HOME OF GAMALIEL, DANIEL AND BENJAMIN LEE.
*Original Lee Homestead in Farmingville. Birthplace of David, (son of
 Daniel Lee), father of Countess Von Waudersee and Baroness
 Von Waechter — Lautenbach.*



OUTPOST FARM,
Residence of Colonel Louis D. Conley.

Philip Burr Keeler, who lived where Mrs. Earles F. Holmes resides at the present time, had a large milling business. He ground corn and feed of all kinds. His mill was noted for the excellent buckwheat flour he made. It was here that Harry Gilbert, who married Eliza Ann Keeler, established the business, building the house and mill, and afterwards selling out to his brother-in-law. Hull Keeler, who lived where the family of Dr. L. B. Jameson now make their home, had a distillery, and made cider brandy. One of the older inhabitants of Limestone, Burr Hull, who lived on Fire Hill, was a soldier in the war of 1812.

The earliest settlers of Limestone were probably the Bradley family. This section of the township was one of the last to be purchased from the Indians. Limestone formerly had a post office, located in a store near the mills, and Edwin Taylor was the postmaster. Afterward Joseph Taylor operated these mills grinding flour. On some days there would be as many as forty teams standing with grain awaiting their turn. Farmers came from far and near to trade with him, and toll, instead of money, was taken for grinding. There was also a store at Lockwoods Corners run by Isaac Haviland and both of these stores had a large patronage.

Limestone has two pretty lakes called Little Pond and Great Pond, the latter being situated south of the mountain which bears its name. Great Pond Mountain has an elevation of seven hundred and sixty feet. Little Pond is just below the offices of the Outpost Nursery, whose grounds extend along the road for over a mile. These offices, architecturally imposing, and with the well-kept grounds tastefully planted with shrubs and evergreens, make this entrance to our town particularly impressive.

Limestone District is bordered by Bennett's Farms on the north. The general landscape in this section is one

of great beauty. There is a restfulness in the view which embraces mountains and hills rising in succession.

Titicus lies in the central part of the township. The center of the town, as nearly as can be determined, is a point a little to the north of the intersection of the road leading to the Ridgefield School. This quiet hamlet in its early days saw many stirring scenes. The Titicus River was early recognized by the settlers as one of the natural assets of the town, and its waters were utilized to turn many a mill wheel between its source and the New York State line. Several years ago the genuine simplicity of this hamlet was changed by the construction of a state road. The old bridge at the cross roads was arched, and there was always a pleasant rippling of the brook as it flowed beneath, over the moss covered stones.

Scotland District in an old atlas is called Scott's Ridge after the Scott family, for the Scotts at one time were very numerous in this district. There was Nathan Scott, who built the house of J. Willis Wade, and Olmstead Scott, who lived across the street, and Hezekiah Scott, or Uncle 'Kiah, who lived down at the foot of the hill on the road to the ledges. The brook running through this valley is still called Uncle 'Kiah's Brook. Samuel Scott lived where his son Hamilton B. Scott now resides. Just above and opposite the road to Lake Mamanasco lived James Scott and here his son, Hiram K. Scott, was born. The James Scott farm was bought in 1882 by the town for a Town Farm. The first Pest House in the town was in Scotland and stood in the rear of the present residence of Mrs. C. P. Dixon. A mystery in connection with this place is a famous old well, which tradition says was covered with some slabs and although successive owners of the property have searched for it, its location has never been found. During the Battle of Ridgefield bullets fell thick and fast upon the flat around the school house and the inmates of the farm houses took refuge in their cellars. Many



TITICUS CROSS ROADS.

The Old Arch Stone Bridge over which the British retreated. To the left is the Homestead of Epenetus Howe, and later of Jabez Mix Gilbert. In the wagon are Mr. and Mrs. William E. Casey.



HILLAIRES,

Residence of Joseph H. Conron, West Mountain.

bullets entered the old house which is now Mrs. Dixon's farm house, and the people sought shelter in the chimney in the cellar. A few Continental troops had barracks at one time in back of the present residence of Jonathan Peterson, which place is known as Barrack Hill.

A grist mill was maintained on Lake Mamanasco for probably one hundred and forty years. The first miller was Daniel Sherwood, an account of whom is given in the opening chapters of this book. Among the proprietors of this mill was James Harvey Smith. For a while, W. J. Hoffman manufactured paper here and during his occupancy, the mill was burned. It was rebuilt, and is now standing useless and tenantless, but fitting into a most picturesque and charming bit of landscape. There remains somewhat of quaintness about this structure with its hip roofs and weatherbeaten sides, and the rushing of the mill stream below.

That portion of Scotland District near the present home of Dr. F. P. Solly and Miss Ann S. Richardson was formerly called Bung-town, and is still called Bung-town by many of the *habitants*. Within a few years, the charms of Scotland with its pretty hills and rivered valleys, have attracted the attention of many people from New York and elsewhere. Many beautiful homes have been established in this pleasant section of our town. In the upper part of this district are the homes of Eugene O'Neill, and Walter Hampden. A large tract of territory on Titicus Mountain has been preserved by Henry B. Anderson, its present owner, in its natural beauty. Fine roads lead through the forests and along the mountainside, making the hitherto almost impassable country accessible to the motorist.

Sugar Loaf and Barlow Mountain on the east command wonderful views. On the summit of the grade leading over Barlow Mountain near the residence of Seth Low Pierrepont, a century ago was a blacksmith shop con-

ducted by John Barlow. Besides shoeing horses and oxen he wrought in iron, his andirons being especially famous.

It was in Scotland that D. Crosby Baxter, the founder of the Ridgefield Press, made his home in the latter days of his life. Mamanasco Lake, which stretches for a mile through Scotland District, is a beautiful sheet of water and its setting is very pleasant. Years ago upon this lake were "floating islands," which rose in the spring and sank in the fall. Peter Parley mentions a trip to the lake on his eighth birthday, August 19, 1801, and while waiting for his grist, he "angled in the pond and carried home enough for a generous meal." Lake Mamanasco is also called Burt's Pond from the family by that name formerly living upon its borders. Just on the crest of the ridge across the New York State line is the "Port of Missing Men." It is famous for its wonderful sweeping view. The towns of Ridgefield, North Salem, Brewster, Danbury and the hills beyond the Housatonic, the Highlands and the Catskills are plainly discernible, making one of the most beautiful views to be seen in this section.

Scotland at one time was the home of several families interested in the circus business. Among these were Lewis June, the Hunt family and just across the line in North Salem, Lewis B. Titus. Circus horses were wintered on the June farm, now the home of Thaddeus Crane, and at the Hunt's they kept an elephant. This elephant was employed to carry loads of grain upon its back, and while on the highway scared many a farmer's horse.

In Ridgebury district lived Aaron Turner who was also proprietor of a circus. He lived in the section that was set off to Danbury in 1846. His farm was just above Ridgebury on the road leading to Brewster. The Turner House in Danbury was built and operated by him, and this became his home after he left Ridgebury. Mr. Turner had two sons, Napoleon and Tim, who were very expert bare-back riders. George V. R. Hunt of Ridgebury accompanied the

circus on several trips. Mr. Hunt sold candy, oranges, and other refreshments. He was noted for his peppermint cordial, which he made himself from an old receipt.

The Baker apple was discovered in Scotland District by Dr. Amos Baker, for whom it was named. While waiting for his grain to be ground at the mill, Dr. Baker was strolling through the fields near the lake. His attention was called to this apple by its brilliant coloring, and upon tasting the fruit, he perceived it to be of excellent quality. In the Spring, he secured several grafts from this old and gnarled tree, and the apple thus produced has since become famous throughout the country.

Florida District furnished Ridgefield with one of its unique characters, George Washington Gilbert, who lived easterly from Cooper Station.* George Washington Gilbert was born July 1st, 1847, and as he often proclaimed, in the same year as Thomas A. Edison. For over forty years he lived alone, and was often called the Ridgefield hermit. He enjoyed visitors, and hundreds of people called upon him annually. He related many strange tales and yarns, which gained in detail and wonder with each narration. His mathematical problems were seldom solved on the spot. The following: "What is a third and a half of a third of ten?" was given to his visitors, especially to scholars and teachers. Another favorite was: "If one fifth of ten is three, what would one fourth of twenty be?" George Washington Gilbert boasted that he had never ridden on a railroad nor seen a trolley car. For many years, Colonel Edward M. Knox was his near neighbor. Colonel Knox built a little house for Mr. Gilbert after the old ancestral building fell down. George Washington Gilbert, as the years passed by, took keen pleasure in his fame as a hermit. He even enjoyed that phase of his life when the old house

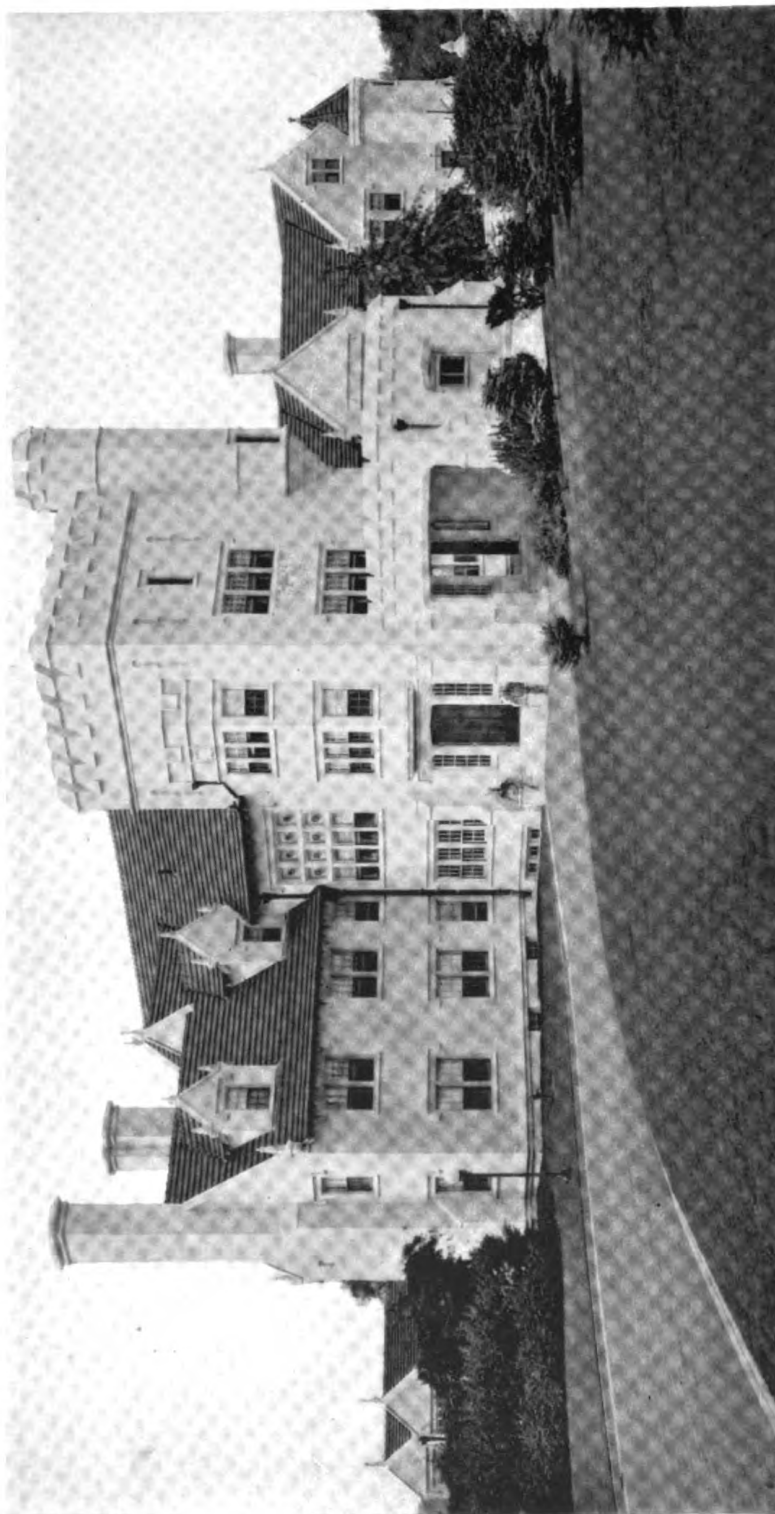
*Cooper station did not receive its name from the great American author, but from the fact that for many years a cooper shop occupied the site of the present railroad station. For many years a post office named Cooper was maintained at this station.

practically tumbled down upon him, and he moved his bed into the capacious fire-place, the only spot of slight shelter left. In one corner of the chimney in the cellar of the old house, was a stone which strikingly resembled the profile of Queen Victoria, and it required no stretch of the imagination to recognize the similarity. This stone was one of George's cherished possessions, and he took great pride and delight in pointing out this natural curiosity, always telling the story in a most explanatory manner and with profuse embellishment. An old sword was always brought out and exhibited as an heir-loom from his grandfather, David Gilbert. George *said* that his grandfather captured it from a Hessian officer at the Battle of Monmouth. Where the sword actually came from may be a matter of doubt, but there is every reason to believe that his grandfather was really at Monmouth as he was a member of the Regiment commanded by Colonel Philip Burr Bradley, present at that fight.

The sword is now in the historical room of the Ridgefield Library and Historical Association. George Washington Gilbert died January 5th, 1924.

West Lane is one of the oldest thoroughfares in the town, running from the lower end of Main Street to the New York State Line. West Lane District, which takes its name from this old highway, is essentially a place of homes. Favored with a western exposure, with a landscape gradually sloping to the Hudson River, and broken by the hills and ridges of the Harlem valley, West Lane, assisted thus by Nature, was ever especially attractive to the home seeker.

Here were the homes of many of Ridgefield's sturdy citizens of a century ago, but gradually one by one, farms and houses have changed hands, until nearly the whole of the district has been transformed into a summer colony. In the days of the stage coach West Lane was a connecting link with the turnpike leading to New York City. Just



RESIDENCE OF MRS. FREDERIC E. LEWIS,
West Lane.

over the line in New York State, is one of the old mile-stones, and cut in the stone in bold characters one reads "80 to H." As told elsewhere, West Lane has been made world famous through Peter Parley, born in this district. West Lane graduated many shoemakers. At one time, there were nearly twenty shoemakers living here, the Grum-mans, Smiths, Northrops, Benedicts, David Brinckerhoff and his son Benjamin. At the Judge John F. Gilbert place, now the home of Mrs. Ralph D. Cleveland, formerly lived Azariah Lee. He was famous for his ox-carts, which were made in a little shop near his home. Daniel Sholes, the father of the late D. Smith Sholes, settled in West Lane, coming here from Vermont. His son, D. Smith Sholes, was born in Ridgefield, December 22nd, 1839, and for many years was a manufacturer of shirts as stated elsewhere in this volume. The last years of his life he devoted to the Ridgefield Savings Bank and the First National Bank of Ridgefield, of which he was the first cashier. He was prominent in town affairs and highly respected by his fellow citizens. Mr. Sholes died July 8th, 1907.

Benjamin K. Northrop lived in West Lane. He was one of the most active men in the political life of the town, as well as in the social life of the community. The Northrop homestead is now the home of Miss Alice Cary Williams, 2nd. Honorable John Brophy, for twelve years commissioner of Fairfield County, was one of Ridgefield's best citizens. For many years, he was Selectman and placed the town upon a sound financial basis. Previously, for sixteen years, he was Inspector of Customs at the Port of New York. John Borden, whose home was near the present residence of the Misses Hyde, was a well known hatter and conducted a little shop near his house. Honorable William O. Seymour, Railroad Commissioner of the State, and whose name is mentioned often in this volume, lived in West Lane. Of the Northrop family, Philip lived just below West Lane schoolhouse, the present home of Mrs.

John A. Mitchell, and Aaron Northrop lived on the Salem Road in the present home of Robert P. Scripps. In Olmstead Lane, lived Harry Smith on the corner, then Deacon Matthew Olmstead farther down, then David Olmstead, Jeremiah Olmstead and Walter Olmstead. David Northrop, another farmer, lived in the present lower farmhouse of George Doubleday. On account of his corpulent figure, he was called "Button Dave." On Peaceable Street are the grounds of the Ridgefield Golf Club which was organized in 1894.

What a contrast there is today with 1850! The farmyards with their ox-carts, wagons and stone-boats of those days, are now spacious well-kept grounds, with beautiful gardens.

THE GILBERT STORE

For many years, a store stood at the upper end of the village. It was by the side of the road just south of the present home of Mrs. Nagel, formerly occupied by Mr. George H. Newton, and before that by William Lee. The first occupant of this place was Abner Gilbert, father of the late William A. Gilbert, who built the house above mentioned in 1812. With his brother-in-law, Richard Randall, he established a business under the firm name of Richard Randall and Company, and after the retirement of Mr. Randall, this store was conducted by Mr. Gilbert. The store was successfully operated upwards of half a century. The front of the store was painted a peculiar shade of yellow. In the accompanying picture may be seen the north part of this building.

THE CORNER STORE

Squire Thaddeus Keeler, 2nd, lived south of the Reseguie Tavern in the house now owned by E. Legrand Beers. He built the Corner Store and did a large business. It was the only store in town that kept medicines

and where prescriptions were filled. The store, which is still standing, has had several proprietors, among whom may be mentioned Edward H. Smith, and his son Edward L. Smith, and George G. Knapp. Its very age makes it an appropriate place for the antique shop which is conducted there at present. The memories associated with the Ridgefield heir-looms shown here are rendered more charming by old associations, for around the corner were grouped the Resseguie Tavern, the silversmith shop, and the old carriage shop.

CHAPTER XXXVI

PERSONAL AND BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

On account of its healthful climate, rustic simplicity and natural beauty, Ridgefield has been selected during the past fifty years as the summer home of many men prominent in the political, professional and business world. Many of these men made Ridgefield their permanent dwelling-place; other resided here in the summer either in established homes, or at hotels. It seems fitting to record a few of those who have been attracted to our town.

The old Ridgefield Inn, the Bailey Inn and the Elms are all well known. Of these, only the Elms remains. Here have been entertained many distinguished men. Among them may be mentioned James Lane Allen, who spent many seasons in Ridgefield and much of his work was done in our town. He especially delighted in the days of autumn, when nature was ablaze with its most brilliant colorings. He made our town a second home until his death.

For many years, General Charles C. Hood, a well known soldier of the Civil War, lived in Ridgefield. General Hood was in the campaign in Tennessee, and with Sherman on his "March to the Sea." He served in the Spanish War and was Governor of the Island of Luzon in the Philippines.

Brigadier General Wilbur E. Wilder who makes his summer home in Ridgefield, graduated from West Point in the class of 1877. He saw much active service in the Indian Wars in Arizona and New Mexico, and was awarded the Medal of Honor for bravery in the campaign against Geronimo. General Wilder commanded the Fourteenth New York Volunteer Regiment in the Spanish War and

was also in the Philippines. He was Colonel of the Fifth U. S. A. Cavalry in the Border War with Mexico. During the World War, he was commissioned Brigadier-General. He was placed in command of the 168th Infantry Brigade, 84th Division, and was in service at Camp Taylor, Kentucky. In September, 1918, he was placed in command of the camp at LeMans, France, and in 1913, in command of the 83rd division, bringing these troops home. General Wilder is a native of Michigan.

Dr. Cyrus Northrop was born in Ridgefield September 30, 1834, the son of Cyrus and Polly (Bouton) Northrop. He graduated from Yale in the class of 1857, and from Yale Law School class of 1859, and was admitted to the bar in the following year. In 1862 he was clerk of the Connecticut House of Representatives and in 1863 Clerk of the State Senate. Dr. Northrop was editor of the New Haven Palladium in 1863. From 1863 to 1884 he was Professor of Rhetoric and English Literature at Yale. For twelve years, 1869 to 1881, he was Collector of the Port of New Haven. In 1884, he accepted the Presidency of the University of Minnesota which position he held until his death.

Colonel Francis E. Lacey, Jr., came to Ridgefield in 1924 to make it his future home. He graduated from West Point in the class of 1889. In 1917, he was promoted Colonel. He served at various posts in the west, was with the army in Cuba, and at the battle of El Caney, and the siege of Santiago. In 1916 he was chief of staff of the Department of Hawaii. Colonel Lacey was on duty at Washington at the outbreak of the War. He joined the American Expeditionary Forces to France, served at the Army General Staff College at Langres, and then as Corps Inspector of the 7th Army Corps, until May, 1919, when he returned to the United States. From 1920 to 1922, he commanded the 16th Infantry. In 1922, Colonel Lacey retired from active service, after thirty-seven years

of army life. He was born at Huntington, West Virginia, March 4th, 1869, and died at Ridgefield, November 17th, 1926. He is buried in the Arlington National Cemetery.

Colonel Edward M. Knox made Ridgefield his home for many years. He lived in Florida District, and after giving up active interest in the large hatting business which bears his name, he spent most of his time in his Ridgefield home. Here he often entertained Mark Twain, one of his personal friends. Colonel Knox was one of the heroes of the Civil War. He enlisted in Meagher's Battery, Heavy Artillery, and for his bravery at the Battle of Gettysburg was given a Gold Medal by Congress. At this battle, he was shot through the body and was borne unconscious from the field by Patrick Sullivan, a member of his battery. For several weeks there was little hope of his life. Colonel Knox proved a grateful benefactor, and never forgot this act of his comrade Sullivan, in after years remembering his friend generously, until the latter died. Colonel Knox survived his comrade but a short while.

On October 8th, 1898, General Stewart L. Woodford was a visitor in Ridgefield. He was the guest of the Honorable William A. Jenner at his home on High Ridge. General Woodford was ambassador to Spain at the time of the breaking out of war with that nation. A reception was given in his honor by Mr. Jenner which many of the townspeople attended, among them being Reverend Doctor Foster Ely, Governors George E. and Phineas C. Lounsbury, Honorable William O. Seymour, Doctor A. L. Northrop, George M. Olcott, David S. Egleston, James Morris, A. Newbold Morris and many others. While in Ridgefield, General Woodford was also the guest of Mr. Olcott, who was his personal friend for years.

On April 19th, 1907, Honorable William Jennings Bryan came to Ridgefield and nearly a thousand townspeople turned out to see and hear him. A reception was given him in the Town Hall, where he made a very inter-

esting address. The schools were closed, and the children attended the reception. Mr. Bryan was entertained while in Ridgefield by Dr. John W. Cox at Stonecrest. Other guests of Dr. Cox at this time were Honorable Melbert B. Cary, Alexander Troup of New Haven and Archibald McNeil, Jr., of Bridgeport. Mr. Bryan spoke upon the blessings of Christianity, education and free government as being of far more value to us than anything else our forefathers could have left us. Mr. Bryan made a strong plea for all to work together for the common good and at the close of his remarks all present were invited to come forward and shake hands with him.

On August 3rd, 1917, President Wilson appointed our fellow-townsmen, Honorable George Pratt Ingersoll, as Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States to the Kingdom of Siam. Mr. Ingersoll held this important position in the diplomatic service for a little over a year. At his home in Ridgefield, he entertained the Prince of Siam, Phya Prabha Kararonvongee, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to this country from the King of Siam.

Frederick Remington came to Ridgefield and made it his permanent home. He built and lived in the present home of Mrs. George H. Newton. He was the foremost of American artists in depicting early western life. He had lived in Ridgefield but a short time when he was stricken with appendicitis. At that time, he was working upon a canvas in his studio, which may be seen on the easel in the accompanying illustration, the room being just as it was when he left it for the last time. He died at his home in Ridgefield on December 26th, 1909, and his body was taken to Canton, New York, his native place, for burial.

Ridgefield has entertained many distinguished visitors. Among those who have visited our town are several Presidents of the United States. President Washington passed



STUDIO OF FREDERICK REMINGTON.

This illustration with the painting on the easel, shows the room as he left it for the last time before his death.

through Ridgefield several times on his journeys from the Hudson to Hartford and return. Other Chief Executives who have come to Ridgefield are Presidents Grant, Garfield, Cleveland, Roosevelt and Harding.

On a recent trip through New England Henry Ford and Thomas A. Edison spent a portion of a day in our town.

Governor Charles R. Ingersoll of New Haven often came to Ridgefield in the early days on visits to his relatives. He often related to his children the story of his first trips to our town by means of the stage-coach. In the latter part of his life he frequently visited the home of his daughter Mrs. George G. Haven, Jr. Governor Ingersoll was Chief Executive of the State from 1873 to 1877.

Four residents of Ridgefield have had the high distinction of being President of the National Academy of Design; Edwin H. Blashfield, J. Alden Weir, Frederic Dielman and Cass Gilbert.

George Henry Smilley, an artist of international fame, lived in Ridgefield many years, his home being the present place of E. LeGrand Beers. Mr. Smilley's landscapes are in numerous collections both in this country and in Europe. He died at his home in Bronxville, November 5th, 1921.

J. Alden Weir lived in Branchville and was one of the finest and ablest of our artists. Many scenes painted near his Ridgefield home occupy places in our best museums.

Edwin H. Blashfield spent many summers in Ridgefield. He is one of the most famous American decorators.

John Ames Mitchell, editor and author, spent many years in Ridgefield. He was born in New York City, January 17th, 1845. He was educated at Harvard and also studied in Boston and Paris. From 1870 to 1876, he was an architect in Boston, and becoming educated in decorative art, he studied this subject further in Paris from 1876 to 1880. Mr. Mitchell returned to New York and engaged

in journalism as an artist, illustrator and writer, founding in 1883, "Life." Among his works are "The Romance of the Moon," "Amos Judd," "The Pines of Lory." Mr. Mitchell died at his home in West Lane, June 29th, 1918.

THE PHYSICIANS OF RIDGEFIELD

At the present writing five physicians reside in Ridgefield; Dr. Russell W. Lowe, Dr. B. A. Bryon, Dr. Alice E. Rockwell, Dr. Henry W. Allen and Dr. Francis B. Woodford.

Dr. Lowe has been Health Officer of the town since his coming to Ridgefield in 1893. He has been very diligent in his duties, ever striving to maintain the high standard of health for which the town of Ridgefield is famed. He enlisted in the service of his country in the World War, being commissioned a Captain, and was stationed in army camps in the South and was also on duty at Washington, D. C.

In the death of Dr. William H. Allee, April 21, 1927, the town lost one of its most earnest and progressive citizens. His greatest civic work was in connection with the erection of a new grammar school. Dr. Allee was interested in all improvements that stood for the advancement of the town.

The first physician in the town, of whom there appears to be a record, was Dr. Jonathan Abbott, who was living in Ridgefield as early as 1720. In this year, he was elected Collector of Taxes. Dr. Abbott died August 23rd, 1751. Other early physicians were Dr. Amos Baker, who was a surgeon in the Revolutionary War; Dr. Stephen Bennett who, according to the town records, was elected Grand Juror in 1786; Dr. David Perry, a graduate of Yale; Dr. Elisha Alvord, who lived in Ridgebury and died in 1812; Dr. David Burr, also of Ridgebury.

The Perry family were prominent in the town, socially, politically and professionally. Dr. David Perry was succeeded by his son Nehemiah, who in turn was followed by his son Nehemiah, Jr. For a century they administered to the physical comfort of the Ridgefield people. Dr. William H. Sackett, born in Greenwich, a graduate of Yale, pursued his studies under Doctor Perry. Dr. Sackett moved to Bedford in 1805.

Doctor Samuel Perry, son of Doctor David Perry, studied medicine with his father. He left Ridgefield for the South and followed his profession in New Orleans. His services were in great demand at the Battle of New Orleans, January 8th, 1815. After the surrender of the British forces Doctor Perry was summoned on board the British war-ships anchored before the city where he attended the wounded and the dying.

Dr. Samuel Perry died at Robertsville, South Carolina.

A monument inscribed as follows is erected to his memory in the Titicus Cemetery:

In Memory of
Doctor Samuel Perry
who died at Robertsville
South Carolina
Oct. 16, 1821
in his 38th year.

Contemporaries of Dr. Nehemiah Perry, Jr., were Dr. Oliver Starr Hickok who came from Bethel, Dr. William S. Todd, Dr. Calvin H. Kendall and Dr. Daniel L. Adams, retired. Other physicians following were Dr. Willis E. Weed, Dr. Russell W. Lowe, Dr. Howard P. Mansfield, Dr. B. A. Bryon, Dr. Henry D. Eaton, Dr. William H. Allee, Dr. F. J. Morrison, Dr. Henry W. Allen and Dr. Francis B. Woodford.

It should be mentioned that no lawyer has an office in the town, nor up to the present has any of this profession been able to maintain a livelihood in Ridgefield. No person from Ridgefield in all its history has ever been called to pay the maximum penalty for crime.

CHAPTER XXXVII

RIDGEFIELD OF THE PRESENT

To have written of the Ridgefield of yesterday with its unique and humble beginnings, its struggle for existence, its slow but persistent growth to the Ridgefield of today, though a work demanding patient and careful research into archives over two hundred years old, was, nevertheless, a work easy of accomplishment. It was only to look backward and trace faithfully for the present generation those deeds and events, those personalities and achievements, which were so long hidden from our view, as to be almost entirely unknown or forgotten.

To write of the Ridgefield of today is to look forward and give to the succeeding generations of the Ridgefield of tomorrow, a record of those activities, which are making the history of tomorrow.

Among these activities must be mentioned the organizations which are carrying on the heritage handed down from our ancestors in preserving the natural beauty of our town. Always considering thoughtfully that moral beauty without which no village or town can maintain its high character, these organizations and their individual members have given freely and unselfishly of their time and means in their devotion to our town and the welfare of its people.

The Ridgefield District Nursing Association was organized in Ridgefield in 1914. The need of assistance rendered through this association to the sick and disabled in our town is beyond estimation. The charitable and prompt attention given to people in all walks of life has relieved many families in times of suffering, bringing comfort to the distressed. The scope of this work is very

broad. Many needy cases are assisted with money, food and fuel. The Society works with all Health and School organizations. For many years, Miss Ellen Enright has been the visiting nurse. From a report submitted by Mrs. Frederic E. Lewis, Chairman of the Nursing Committee, we find that in 1926, one thousand and forty-three visits were made by Miss Enright. Some of the cases are surgical, others are treated temporarily, and some patients sent to hospitals. An important part of the work is the examination of school children. The present officers are as follows: President, Mrs. William H. Allee; Vice-Presidents, Mrs. Frederic E. Lewis, Mrs. Ebenezer W. Keeler; Treasurer, Mrs. Archibald V. Davis; Secretary, Mrs. Frederick D. Thomas; Chairman, Committee on Hospitals and Nursing, Mrs. Frederic E. Lewis.

The Ridgefield Branch of the National League of Women Voters was the organization which followed the Women's Equal Franchise League. When the electorate was granted to women, it was felt that this was only the beginning of women's work in politics, and this organization was then formed for the education of women for the larger task of citizenship which was before them. The Ridgefield Branch of the National League of Women Voters was organized in Ridgefield in 1921. On January 25th, 1921, a meeting was called and a committee was appointed to draft a constitution and report to a later meeting. The members of this committee, Mrs. Mortimer C. Keeler, Mrs. Elizabeth J. Reed, Miss Marion H. Nash, reported at a meeting held February 23rd, at which time the Ridgefield Branch was duly organized. The following are the first officers: President, Mrs. Elizabeth J. Reed; First Vice-President, Mrs. Mortimer C. Keeler; Second Vice-President, Miss Mary Olcott; Third Vice-

President, Mrs. William H. Allee; Secretary, Mrs. Willis S. Gilbert; Treasurer, Mrs. George A. Mignery. Mrs. Reed served two terms, and was succeeded by Miss Edna G. Schoyer, who has continued since as president. The League of Women Voters is a non-partisan organization, and urges its members to participate in the affairs of the party of their choice, aiming to educate women in citizenship.

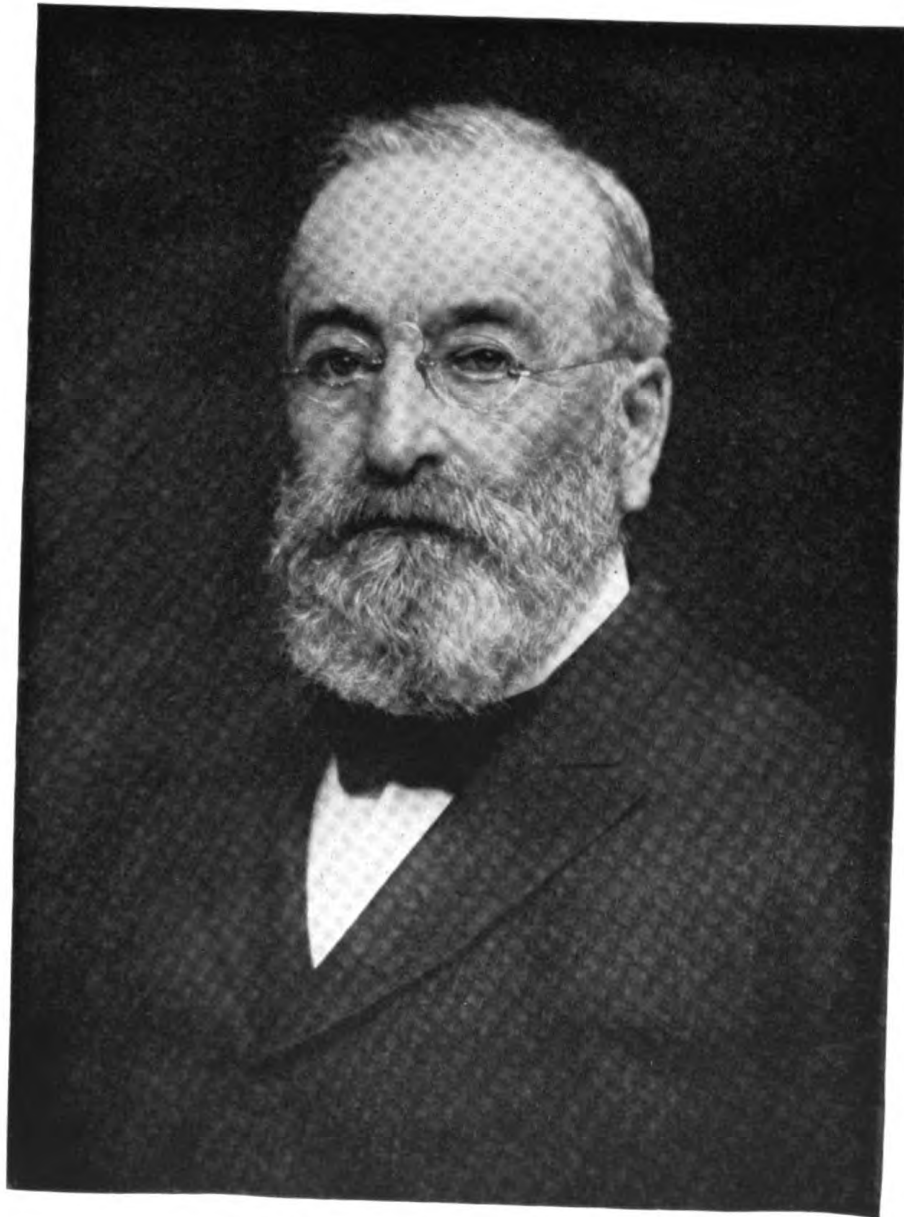
The growth of Ridgefield is reflected in its Post Office and Banks. Rural Free Delivery was established in Ridgefield, February, 1901, during the administration of Postmaster William C. Barhite. Ridgefield was among the first few towns in the United States where this service was established by the Post Office Department. The Village Delivery was established October 1st, 1925, and the City Delivery, October 1st, 1926.

The Ridgefield Savings Bank was organized in 1871. The first meeting of the incorporators was held July 29th, 1871, in the store of Bailey and Gage, now known as Old Hundred. The following officers were chosen: President, Dr. Daniel L. Adams; First Vice-President, Edward H. Smith; Secretary and Treasurer, Lewis H. Bailey; Directors, Daniel L. Adams, Peter P. Cornen, Edward H. Smith, William R. Hoyt, William Howe, Francis A. Rockwell, George Grumman, Josiah Dauchy, Lewis H. Bailey, Harvey K. Smith, William H. Beers, D. Smith Sholes and David Pulling. The business was conducted at Old Hundred until 1884, when it was moved uptown to the north store of the Mrs. Samuel Keeler block. In 1900 it removed to the Town Hall, where it remained until 1922, when it moved to the quarters it now occupies in the Ernest Scott Block. The present officials are, President, Samuel Keeler; Vice-Presidents, Richard W. Osborn, D.

Frank Bedient; Secretary and Treasurer, George E. Benedict; Assistant Treasurer, Roland L. Gilbert; Directors, Samuel Keeler, Richard W. Osborn, D. Frank Bedient, George E. Benedict, Roland L. Gilbert, Samuel S. Denton, George B. Clarke, Willis S. Gilbert, Charles D. Crouchley, Charles S. Nash, James E. Ryan, Michael T. McGlynn.

The First National Bank of Ridgefield opened for business May 1st, 1900, in the Town Hall Building. D. Smith Sholes as Cashier, was in charge of the opening, and George E. Benedict and Archibald V. Davis as Clerks were his assistants. Mr. Davis, now Vice-President and Cashier of the bank, has been with the institution since its beginning. The original officers were, President George E. Lounsbury; Vice-President, George M. Olcott; Cashier, D. Smith Sholes; Directors, Charles L. Rockwell, George M. Olcott, William O. Seymour, John Brophy, George E. Lounsbury, Phineas C. Lounsbury, Lucius H. Biglow, Samuel Keeler, D. Smith Sholes. Mr. Olcott was elected President in 1904 upon the death of Mr. Lounsbury, and served until his death in 1917. Mr. Olcott was succeeded by Dr. George G. Shelton and at Dr. Shelton's death, November, 1925, Michael Connery, for nearly nine years Vice-President, served as acting President.

In 1920 the title of the bank was changed to First National Bank and Trust Company. Practically all the departments of modern banking are in operation by this institution. The present bank building on the corner of Governor Street was erected in 1911. The following are the officers in 1927: President, Edward W. Simons; Vice-President and Cashier, A. V. Davis; Assistant Cashier, Arthur G. Seymour; Directors, A. V. Davis, Charles S. Nash, James E. Ryan, John H. Lynch, Edward W. Simons, William R. Keeler, Louis M. Starr, Eldridge N. Bailey.



Geo. M. Olcott

The Ridgefield Village Improvement Society was organized on September 22nd, 1899, with fourteen members. The work accomplished by this society was sadly needed. Eleven or more triangles were planted and cared for by the society. The watering trough opposite the Town Hall, in those days a great necessity, was obtained through the efforts of the Executive Committee. A light was placed near the Congregational Church and cared for, and one winter the Society maintained lamps the length of Main Street, and for two winters cleaned the streets from snow after every storm.

The Ridgefield Garden Club was founded June 9th, 1904, and the following officers were elected: President, Mrs. Albert H. Storer; First Vice-President, Mrs. George P. Ingersoll; Second Vice-President, Mrs. A. Barton Hepburn; Secretary, Mrs. Cass Gilbert; Treasurer, Mrs. Howard L. Thomas. Only those who take an active interest in horticulture and who plant, plan or actually work in their gardens are eligible for membership. The Ridgefield Garden Club gives an annual exhibition at which are shown flowers, fruits and vegetables.

There is also an exhibition held under the auspices of the club by the school children in an effort to promote an intelligent interest in gardens among these young people. Public lectures and open meetings are held by this organization, and a billboard and roadsides committee works in co-operation with other societies in eliminating signs and rubbish, and for the general improvement of the road-sides. Another important committee of the Ridgefield Garden Club is the Wild Flower Preservation Committee, which promotes an active interest among the members of the community in the preservation of native plants and flowers.

The Garden Club of America was entertained at its annual meeting held June 14th, 15th, 16th and 17th, 1927, by five towns, Ridgefield, New Canaan, Greenwich, Bedford and Rye. Fifteen hundred delegates attended this meeting, two hundred and fifty being entertained in Ridgefield as guests of the Ridgefield Garden Club in the homes of its members. The headquarters in Ridgefield were at the West Lane School House.

The State Police Commission established a station in Ridgefield in 1921, with Sergeant Willard E. Bushy in charge. In 1922 the station was placed under the charge of Sergeant John C. Kelly, and in 1927 the present barracks on East Ridge were purchased by the State.

The Ridgefield Promoters Club was organized January, 1926, with the following directors: James J. Kelly, Arthur J. Carnall, James H. Perry, Francis D. Martin, Thomas W. Ryan, Major John W. Tumbridge. The object of the club is to work for the betterment of Ridgefield and its people.

Present day Ridgefield has among its residents the Commissioner on the part of the United States on the International Prison Commission, Honorable B. Ogden Chis-olm; America's greatest opera singer, Miss Geraldine Farrar; the greatest living Shakesperean actor, Walter Hampden; an architect of international fame of whom it has been said that he "is essentially a great designer and creator of form and style," now President of the National Academy of Design, Cass Gilbert; also the designer of the mosaic panels "Law" and "History" in the Congressional Library at Washington, Professor Frederic Dielman, for ten years President of the National Academy of Design; the celebrated writer and novelist, Will Payne; a journalist of international fame, the proprietor of twenty-six news-



FAIRHAVEN,
Residence of Miss Geraldine Farrar, West Lane.



WEST LANE SCHOOL HOUSE ERECTED BETWEEN 1750 AND 1760



OAK KNOLL,
Former residence of Frederick Remington, now the home of Mrs. George H. Newton.



COLONIAL GARDEN AT THE HAWLEY HOMESTEAD,
The home of Mrs. D. Lucile Lockwood.

papers in the United States, Robert P. Scripps; one of the foremost of modern dramatists, Eugene O'Neill; the commander of the "fighting 69th" Regiment, Colonel Louis D. Conley, for seven years at the head of this famous organization; the world renowned orthopedic surgeon, Dr. Newton M. Shaffer.

These and others have selected Ridgefield for their homes.

The history of Ridgefield would not be complete without saying a few words about that group of men who did so much to develop the natural beauty of our town, and give to it that artistic touch in beautiful houses and spacious lawns which has added a charm unsurpassed in New England. The brief mention of their names will bring to the minds of many who remember their unselfish interest and their cordial co-operation with every effort of the townspeople, the debt of gratitude that the beautiful Ridgefield of today owes those men of yesterday: J. Howard King, General Rufus H. King, George M. Olcott, William S. Hawk, Dr. William F. Cushman, James Morris, George E. Lounsbury, Phineas C. Lounsbury, A. Newbold Morris, Edward P. Dutton, Francis M. Bacon, Professor James Crafts, Lucius H. Biglow, David S. Egleston, Horace Ingersoll, Dr. William H. Flint, Henry E. Hawley, Henry K. McHarg, Allen S. Apgar, Theodore H. Mead, Dr. John G. Perry, Dr. B. McE. Emmett, Dr. A. L. Northrop.

The rural charm of this country place with its rugged hills, hidden under the verdure of trees and wild undergrowth, with its fields, upland and beautiful lakes, and with its health invigorating climate, appealed to these men, and from early spring until late fall, their pleasure, their health and their comfort were sought and enjoyed within its confines. Though men of wealth, and prominent in the civic and social world outside of Ridgefield, their deep interest

in everything that pertained to the preservation and improvement of the town and of benefit to its people, inspired that activity that called them time and again to town meetings, there to consult and advise with the townspeople for what was best, morally and materially for the town. We remember them with feelings of gratitude, but if we would make manifest the sincerity of that feeling, let us ever strive to imitate them in the preservation of Ridgefields' natural beauty, of its high standard of citizenship, and of its depth and breadth of mutual regard and respect. Then we, and those who come after, may ever say with pride and joy "Dear Old Ridgefield."

FROM RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS RIDGEFIELD, CONN.

"A people which takes no pride in the noble achievements of remote ancestors will never achieve anything worthy to be remembered with pride by remote descendants."

Macauley: History of England.

BIRTHS

Children of Joseph and Elizabeth Keeler

Rachael	born	Oct.	4, 1706
Elizabeth	"	Nov.	18, 1708
Sarah	"	Sept.	22, 1710
Joseph	"	April	8, 1713

Children of Thomas and Abigail Hauley

Ezekiell	born	April	11, 1713
Joseph	"	May	16, 1714
Abigail	"	Jan.	1, 1715

Children of Benjamin and Sarah Burt

Christopher	born	Aprill	14, 1704
Seaborn	"	July	4, 1706
Benjamin	"	Feb.	5, 1707
Abigail	"	Nov.	8, 1709
John	"	Nov.	9, 1711
Sarah	"	June	4, 1714

Thomas, son of Thomas and Hannah Smith, born Oct. 31, 1711

Children of Richard and Sarah Osburn

David	born	Nov.	1700
Abigail	"	July	1702
John	"	May	1704
Joseph	"	Sept.	1706
Samuel	"	Nov.	1708
Jonathan	"	Nov.	1710
Sarah	"	Dec.	12, 1712
Hezekiah	"	Aprill	30, 1715

Children of Daniell and Hannah Olmstedd

Daniel	born	Feb.	9, 1712
Samuell	"	Mar.	27, 1715
Nathan	"	Mar.	7, 1717
Ambrose	"	May	7, 1719

Mary, daughter of Joseph and Patience Crampton, born Nov. 5, 1715

John, son of Richard and Mary Olmsted, born Feb. 1, 1714/15

Daniel, son of Benjamin and Sarah Burt, born July 8, 1716 — baptized July 15, 1718

Children of Joseph and Ann Benedict

Joseph	born	July	29, 1708
Gideon	"	Mar.	15, 1710
Anne	"	Dec.	17, 1713

Children of Milford Samuel and Elizabeth Smith

Elizabeth	born	June	30, 1708
John	"	Jan.	12, 1711
Nathan	"	Sept.	7, 1715

Children of Matthew and Ann Saintjohn

Matthew	born	June	23, 1711
Sarah	"	Sept.	18, 1713
Mark	"	Aug.	15, 1715

Martha, daughter of Jonathan and Elizabeth Wood, born Feb. 27, 1716

Children of Jonah and Ruth Keeler

Jonah	born	Sept.	17, 1714
Samuell	"	Feb.	9, 1716

Children of JONATHAN AND ABIGAIL ROCKWELL

BENJAMIN	born	July	5, 1704
John	"	Aprill	1705
David	"	Oct.	8, 1708
Jonathan	"	Mar.	31, 1711

Children of James and Sarah Benedict

Sarah	born	May	23, 1709
Ruth	"	Dec.	3, 1711
Peter	"	Mar.	20, 1714
Hannah	"	Jan.	29, 1716

Children of Benjamin and Mary Benedict

Elizabeth	born	Jan.	17, 1705
Benjamin	"	Oct.	1, 1707
Timothy	"	Nov.	11, 1710
Mary	"	Mar.	13, 1711
John	"	Oct.	5, 1714
Daniell	"	Nov.	27, 1716

Children of Benjamin and Jane Williams

Benjamin	born	June	17, 1709
Mary	"	July	3, 1712
Jane	"	Dec.	28, 1714

Children of Henry and Elizabeth Whitney

Elizabeth	born	Aug.	24, 1711
Joshua	"	Dec.	18, 1714
Henry	"	July	29, 1715

Children of James and Mary Williams

John	born	Oct.	16
Rachell	"	Feb.	28, 1711
James	"	Feb.	6, 1713
Sarah	"	Dec.	1, 1714

Children of Ebenezer and Sarah Smith

Sarah	born	Oct.	13, 1713
Abiah	"	Mar.	7, 1714

Children of John Sturdevant

John (by his first wife)	born	Feb.	16, 1710
Elizabeth (by his second wife)	"	Feb.	15, 1713
Samuell	"	Feb.	15, 1715

Children of Joshua and Eunice Lobdell

Sarah	born	Sept.	27, 1714
Caleb	"	Feb.	17, 1715/16

Children of Thomas and Experience Hyatt

Hannah	born	Aug.	15, 1702
Mary	"	Sept.	17, 1705
Uzziell	"	Dec.	10, 1708
Elizabeth	"	Oct.	25, 1711
Thomas	"	Jan.	10, 1714

Joseph, son of Joseph and Susannah Northrop, born May, 1716

Children of Nathan and Sarah Whitne

Mary	born	Dec.	29, 1715
Eliasaph	"	Feb.	3, 1716/17

Richard, son of Richard and Mary Olmsted born Sept. 15, 1717

BIRTHS — Anno Domini, 1717

Jan. 28 — John, son of Henry and Elizabeth Whitne
 Mar. 7 — Nathan, son of Daniell and Hannah Olmsted
 May 13 — Martin, son of Joseph and Elizabeth Keeler
 Anne, daughter of Matthew and Anne Saintjohn
 May 15 — Sarah, daughter of Joseph and Patience Crampton
 Sept. 23 — Stephen, son of Samuell and Elizabeth Smith
 Oct. 14 — Sarah, daughter of Benjamin and Sarah Hayt
 Dec. 2 — Ruth, daughter of Jonah and Ruth Keeler
 Dec. 17 — Jeremiah son of Richard and Sarah Osburn
 June 30 — Agnes, daughter of James and Mary Wallis

BIRTHS — Anno Domini, 1718

Jan. 7 — David, son of Jonathan and Elizabeth Wood
 Mar. 2 — Zibiah, daughter of Thomas and Experience Hyatt
 Mar. 4 — Phebe, daughter of James and Sarah Benedict
 Mar. 15 — Ebenezer, son of Ebenezer and Sarah Smith
 Apr. 20 — Eli, son of Joseph and Susanna Northrop
 May 16 — Elijah, son of Thomas and Abigail Hauley
 June 10 — David, son of Thomas and Hannah Smith
 Aug. 11 — Child of Joseph and Patience Crampton. Died Aug. 12
 Oct. 6 — Thankful, daughter of Benjamin and Sarah Burt

- Nov. 7—Betty, daughter of Henry and Elizabeth Whitne
 Nov. 13—Chakim, son of Nathan and Sarah Whitne

BIRTHS — Anno Domini, 1719

- Aprill 4—Daniel, son of Henry and Elizabeth Whitne
 April 13—Thomas, son of James and Mary Wallis
 June 29—Samuell, son of Benjamin and Mary Benedict
 July 9—Samuell, son of Samuell and Sarah Smith
 August 20—Abigail, daughter of Joseph and Patience Crampton
 Oct. 6—Daniell, son of Ebenezer and Sarah Smith
 Nov. 9—James, son of James and Hannah Northrop
 Dec. 18—Abigail, daughter of Benjamin and Sarah Hayt
 Oct. 29—Daniell, son of Richard and Sarah Osburn

BIRTHS — Anno Domini 1719-20

- Feb. 19—James, son of James and Sarah Benedict
 Feb. 26—Lott, son of Joseph and Elizabeth Keeler
 Feb. 27—Dorothy, daughter of Thomas and Abigail Hauley
 Mar. 29—Stephen, son of Richard and Mary Olmsted
 Apr. 6—Jacob, son of Samuell and Elizabeth Smith
 Oct. 14—Hannah, daughter of Jonah and Ruth Keeler
 Oct. 18—Abigail, daughter of Titus and Abigail Wood
 Oct. 25—Sarah, daughter of Nathan and Sarah Whitne
 Nov. 28—Aaron, son of Joseph and Susanna Northrop
 Dec. 1—Abigail, daughter of Thomas and Experience Hyatt

BIRTHS — Anno Domini, 1721

- Mar. 28—Abigail, daughter of Benjamin and Jane Willson
 May 30—Nathan, son of James and Hannah Northrop
 June 17—Rachell, daughter of Benjamin and Mary Benedict
 July 16—Hannah, daughter of Daniell and Hannah Olmsted
 Aug. 21—John, son of John and Eunice Lobdell
 Aug. 31—Jacob, son of James and Mary Wallis
 Sept. 1—Thankful, daughter of Benjamin and Sarah Burt
 Sept. 3—Benjamin, son of Benjamin and Sarah Stebbins
 Oct. 9—Timothy, son of Timothy and Abigail Keeler
 Dec. 8—Dalilah, daughter of Jonathan and Sarah Abbot

BIRTHS — Anno Domini, 1721/22

- Jan. 31—Samuell Pitman, son of Joseph and Mary Benedict
 Feb. 10—James, son of James and Hannah Scott
 Feb. 20—Thomas, son of Thomas and Abigail Hauley
 Feb. 21—Job, son of Ebenezer and Sarah Smith
 Mar. 29—Richard, son of Henry and Elizabeth Whitne
 April 16—Hannah, daughter of Nathan and Hannah Saintjohn
 Dec. 4—Benjamin, son of Benjamin and Sarah Hayt
 Aug. 13—Nathan, son of Nathan and Sarah Whitne
 Sept. 17—Amos, son of Benjamin and Mary Benedict
 Oct. 12—Abigail, daughter of Jonah and Ruth Keeler
 Oct. 24—Thomas, son of Richard and Mary Olmsted

BIRTHS — Anno Domini, 1723

Jan. 24 — Ebenezer, son of Benjamin and Sarah Stebbins
 Feb. 2 — Jonathan, son of Joseph and Mary Benedict
 Mar. 27 — Matthew, son of Matthew and Hannah Seamore
 April 7 — Rachell, daughter of Samuell and Elizabeth Smith
 June 20 — Rebecca, daughter of Thomas and Experience Hyatt
 Oct. 1 — Rebecca, daughter of Samuell and Rebecca Lobdell
 Nov. 16 — Nathan, son of Thomas and Abigail Hauley
 Nov. 16 — Hannah, daughter of James and Hannah Northrop
 Dec. 8 — Jonathan, son of Daniell and Hannah Olmsted

BIRTHS — Anno Domini, 1724

Feb. 9 — Abigail, daughter of Timothy and Abigail Keeler
 Jan. 26 — Nathan, son of Nathan and Hannah Saintjohn
 June 11 — Nathan, son of Nathan and Sarah Whitne
 Oct. 2 — Elizabeth, daughter of Gamaliel and Mary Northrop
 Mar. 24 — Sarah, daughter of Norwalk Samuell and Elizabeth Smith
 Dec. 3 — Silas, son of Joseph and Elizabeth Keeler

Children of Joseph and Susanna Northrop

Susanna	born	Aug.	30, 1714
Joseph	"	May	11, 1716
Eli	"	May	1, 1718
Aaron	"	Nov.	30, 1720
Abraham	"	Sept.	18, 1722
Isaac	"	Nov.	10, 1726
Miriam	"	July	18, 1728

Children of Joseph and Mary Lee

Joseph	born	June	22, 1718
Mary	"	Sept.	19, 1720
Rebecca	"	Feb.	21, 1723
Sarah	"	Dec.	24, 1736

BIRTHS — Anno Domini, 1724/25

Feb. 3 — Thomas, son of James and Hannah Scott
 Mar. 13 — Matthew, son of Jonah and Ruth Keeler
 Aprill 8 — Mary, daughter of Samuell and Rebecca Lobdell
 May 21 — Martha, daughter of James and Mary Wallis
 July 29 — Lidia, daughter of Thomas and Abigail Hauley
 Sept. 9 — Mary, daughter of Benjamin and Sarah Hoyt
 Dec. 6 — James, son of Henry and Elizabeth Whitne

BIRTHS — Anno Domini, 1726

Feb. 8 — Seth, son of Nathan and Sarah Whitne
 April 30 — John, son of Joseph and Mary Lee
 May 15 — David, son of Nathan and Hannah Saintjohn
 May 16 — Theophilus, son of Benjamin and Sarah Stebbins
 July 3 — Sarah, daughter of Joseph and Mary Benedict
 July 25 — Mary, daughter of Joseph and Mary Benedict
 Jan. 11 — John, son of Joseph and Elizabeth Keeler
 Mar. 17 — Son of Elijah Keeler

Children of Joseph and Sarah Hobart

Joseph	born	July	7, 1724
Sarah	"	July	27, 1725
Rebecca	"	Nov.	13, 1726
Phobe	"	Feb.	25, 1728
Thomas	"	Aug.	6, 1729
Jeremiah	"	Dec.	29, 1730

Children of Jonah Smith

Hannah	born	Nov.	13, 1726
Mary	"	Aprill	14, 1730
Jonah	"	May	7, 1732
James	"	Jan.	4, 1737/8
Elizabeth	"	Nov.	25, 1740
Caleb	"	Sept.	5, 1743
Esther	"	Mar.	4, 1745/6

Children of James and Sarah Benedict

John and Thomas born the evening preceding the 4th of October, 1726

Children of Theophilus and Anne Stebbins

Son	born	Nov.	4, 1750 and died the 18th of the same month
Theophilus	"	Feb.	4, 1752 — died June 4th, 1752

Children of Joshua Lobdell, Jr.

Mary	born	Dec.	6, 1725
Joshua	"	Aprill	23, 1727

Children of Hezekiah and Jameson Gilbert

Sarah	born	Sept.	9, 1758
Jameson	"	Jan.	1, 1759

Children of Gamaliel Northrop

Mary	born	May	26, 1726
Gamaliel	"	Apr.	29, 1728
Daniel	"	May	9, 1730
Elizabeth	"	July	17, 1733
Martha	"	Feb.	29, 1735/6
Hannah	"	Dec.	12, 1744
	"	May	4, 1747

Children of Richard and Mary Olmsted

Hepzibah	born	June	20, 1726
Justus	"	Jan.	21, 1728/9
Daniel	"	Sept.	22, 1731
Samuel	"	June	1, 1734
Mary	"	Feb.	26, 1737/8

Sarah, daughter of Abraham and Mary Betts, born June 17, 1759 — died Oct. 10, 1759

Children of James and Hannah Scott

David	born	Feb.	21, 1727
Sarah	"	Aug.	12, 1729
Hannah	"	Oct.	3, 1731

Elizabeth, daughter of Daniell and Hannah Olmsted, born Feb. 3, 1727

Children of Samuell and Rebecca Lobdell

Abigail born Oct. 21, 1726

Samuel " Sept. 10, 1728

Thankful, daughter of Benjamin and Mary Benedict, born June 23, 1727

Children of Isaac and Elizabeth Northrop

Isaac born Dec. 24, 1752

David " Mar. 20, 1754

Elisabeth " Oct. 28, 1755

Lois " July 17, 1757

Rebeckah " July 13, 1759

Eunice " Feb. 17

Children of Jonah and Elizabeth Gilbert

Lot born Aug. 19, 1727

Nathan " Aprill 24, 1729

Sarah, daughter of Matthew and Comfort Seamore, born Aug. 15, 17—

Children of Timothy and Abigail Keeler

Sarah (their second daughter

of that name born Sept. 26, 1727

Benjamin " Nov. 24, 1730

Jeremiah " Apr. 14, 1733

Mary " Apr. 30, 1738

Hannah " Sept. 5, 1741

Patience, daughter of Norwalk Samuel and Elizabeth Smith born Feb. 19, 1727/8

Hannah, daughter of Thomas and Abigail Hauley, born Aprill 15, 1728

Elijah, son of Nathan and Hannah Saintjohn, born Aprill 20, 1728

Hannah, daughter of Benjamin and Sarah Stebbins, born March 22, 1728

Jeremiah, son of Benjamin and Sarah Stebbins, born Nov. 1, 1729

John, son of John and Patience Osburn, born Nov. 24, 1728

Rachel, daughter of Jonah and Ruth Keeler, born May 5, 1727

Hannah (2nd of that name, daughter of Jonah and Ruth Keeler, born Dec. 13, 1728

Nathan, son of Joseph and Mary Osburn, born Dec. 3, 1728

Nathan, son of Jonah and Elizabeth Smith, born Dec. 11, 1728

Richard, son of David and Rachel Osburn, born Aug. 4, 1727

Lidia, daughter of Joseph and Mary Lee, born March 9, 1729

Sarah, daughter of Samuell and Sarah Saintjohn, born May 31, 1729

Abraham, son of David and Margaret Whitlock, born Feb. 14, 1721

Benjamin, son of William and Sarah Ventrous, born Aug. 12, 1724

Daniell, son of David and Margaret Whitlock, born Sept. 4, 1720

David, son of David and Margaret Whitlock, born Nov. 16, 1723

Thaddeus Whitlock, son of David and Margaret Whitlock, born May 22, 1726

Oliver, son of David and Margaret Whitlock, born Aprill 28, 1728

Thomas, son of William and Elizabeth Drinkwater, born Nov. 3, 1729

Daniell, son of Joshua and Eunice Lobdell, born Oct. 8, 1729

David, son of Benjamin and Sarah Hoyt, born Dec. 6, 1729

Ebenezer, son of Thomas and Abigail Hauley, born Dec. 10, 1729

Martha, daughter of William and Martha Truesdale, born Mar. 8, 1729

Thomas, son of Thomas and Elizabeth Willson, born Feb. 2, 1729/30

Children of James and Hannah Northrop

Thomas	born	Dec.	5, 1727
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Stephen	"	Dec.	13, 1725
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Hannah	"	Aug.	20, 1729
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Children of Nicholas and Martha Bates

Mary	born	Aug.	31, 1720
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Elias	"	Apr.	3, 1722
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John	"	May	2, 1724
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Henry	"	June	15, 1730
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Uzziel Hyat, son of Thomas and Hannah Hyat, born May 16, 1728

Cloe, daughter of Timothy and Keziah Canfield, born Dec. 20, 1748

Sarah, daughter of Thomas and Hannah Hyatt, born Jan. 31, 1750/51

Thomas, son of Thomas and Hannah Hyatt, born Feb. 9, 1753

Children of Matthew and Ruth Benedict

Matthew	born	Oct.	28, 1728
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Anna	"	Feb.	22, 1730
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John	"	Apr.	3, 1732
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Ruth	"	Mar.	24, 1733
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Jesse	"	Feb.	2, 1735
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Elizabeth	"	Jan.	2, 1737/38
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Phebe	"	Aug.	2, 1739
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Ezra	"	Nov.	5, 1741
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John	"	Sept.	30, 1743
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John, son of John and Rebecca Northrop, born Jan. 14, 1729

William, son of John and Rebecca Northrop, born Oct. 26, 1730

Nathan, son of Nathan and Phoebe Willson, born May 21, 1729

Ezra, son of Joseph and Mary Benedict, born Aug. 19, 1730

Josiah, son of Nathan and Sarah Whitne, born June 12, 1729

Patience, daughter of John and Patience Osburn, born Feb. 27, 1730/1

John, son of Christopher and Joanna Burt, born Aug. 14, 1729

Sarah, daughter of John and Lidia Young of Branford, born Mar. 15, 1727

Michael, son of Jonathan and Lidia Abbott, born April 14, 1731

John, son of William and Elizabeth Drinkwater, born July 7, 1731

Samuell, son of Samuell and Sarah Saintjohn, born May 4, 1731

Lidia, daughter of Jonah and Ruth Keeler, born Oct. 14, 1731

David, son of David and Rachel Osburn, born Sept. 25, 1729

Elizabeth, daughter of David and Rachel Osburn, born Sept. 1, 1731

Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas and Elizabeth Willson, born July 8, 1731

Phoebe, daughter of Nathan and Phebe Willson, born June 26, 1731

Mary, daughter of Timothy and Keziah Canfield, born Oct. 25, 1730

Phebe, daughter of Timothy and Keziah Canfield, born Dec. 31, 1731

Ebenezer Lobdell, son of Joshua and Mary Lobdell, born Dec. 1, 1730

Elizabeth, daughter of David and Elizabeth Rockwell, born Jan. 4, 1731/2

Elizabeth, daughter of Josiah and Elizabeth Gilbert, born Mar. 1, 1731/2
 John, son of Matthew and Ruth Benedict, born Aprill 23, 1732
 Sarah, daughter of Joseph and Mary Osburn, born Sept. 27, 1730
 Jeremiah, son of Nathan and Sarah Whitne, born Sept. 18, 1731
 Rachel, daughter of Nathan and Hannah St. John, born Aug. 14, 1731
 Abigail and Sarah Burt, twins, daughters of Christopher and Joanna Burt,
 born April 14, 1732
 Elizabeth, daughter of John and Elizabeth Rockwell, born July 25, 1732
 Sarah, daughter of Joseph and Sarah Nichols, born Feb. 21, 1731
 John, son of Joseph and Sarah Nichols, born June 22, 1732
 John, son of John and Patience Osburn, born March 2, 1733
 Elizabeth, daughter of Joshua and Eunice Lobdell, born Nov. 14, 1732
 Joseph, son of Joseph and Mary Osburn, born Feb. 11, 1733
 Abigail, daughter of Joseph and Mary Lee, born May 8, 1732
 James, son of Ephraim and Hannah Bennedict, born Feb. 5, 1731
 Mary, daughter of Ephraim and Hannah Benedict, born May 5, 1732
 Mary, daughter of John and Mary Dibble, born Oct. 15, 1731
 Enos, son of John and Rebecca Northrop, born Sept. 14, 1733
 Sarah, daughter of Samuell and Sarah Gates, born Sept. 10, 1733
 Sarah, daughter of Nathan and Hannah St. John, born Oct. 9, 1733
 David, son of David and Elizabeth Rockwell, born Jan. 30, 1734
 Sarah and Ruth Rockwell, daughters of Thomas and Ruth Rockwell, born
 March 1, 1733
 Sarah, daughter of Gideon and Sarah Smith, born Jan. 29, 1732
 Elizabeth, daughter of Ebenezer and Rebecca Lobdell, born Sept. 21, 1733
 Anne, daughter of Thomas and Elizabeth Willson, born April 20, 1734
 Josiah, son of Benjamin and Sarah Stebbins, born April 21, 1732
 Samuell, son of Christopher and Joanna Burt, born Jan. 19, 1734
 John, son of John and Elizabeth Rockwell, born May 12, 1734
 Ebenezer, son of Timothy and Keziah Canfield, born Nov. 4, 1733
 Joseph, son of Joseph and Sarah Nicholls, born May 29, 1734
 Samuel, son of Samuel and Martha Abbott, born June 15, 1734
 Ezekiel, son of Nathan and Phebe Willson, born Nov. 19, 1733
 Ebenezer, son of Ebenezer and Jane Brooks, born July 6, 1731
 Jane, daughter of Ebenezer and Jane Brooks, born April 8, 1733
 Mary, daughter of Jabez and Kezia Rockwell, born Aug. 23, 1733
 Rebecca, daughter of Jabez and Kezia Rockwell, born Mar. 8, 1735
 Mary, daughter of Jonah and Elizabeth Smith, born June 18, 1734
 John, son of John and Kezia Sturdevant, born Mar. 24, 1733
 Samuel, son of John and Kezia Sturdevant, born Feb. 18, 1735
 Peter, son of Peter and Mary Benedict, born Aug. 10, 1735
 Rebecca, daughter of John and Rebecca Northrop, born Sept. 25, 1735
 Mary, daughter of Ebenezer and Jane Brooks, born Sept. 14, 1735
 Mary White, daughter of Eunice Abbott, born December 2, 1727
 John, son of Nathan and Phebe Willson, born Jan. 27, 1735/6
 Stephen, son of Lemuel and Martha Abbott, born Jan. 20, 1735/6
 Mary, daughter of Joseph and Mary Osburn, born Feb. 6, 1735/6

Joseph Stebbins, son of Benjamin and Sarah Stebbins, born July 4, 1735
 Benjamin, son of Benjamin and Rebecca Rockwell, born August 13, 1733
 Jane, daughter of Benjamin and Rebecca Rockwell, born Sept. 13, 1735
 Elizabeth, daughter of John and Elizabeth Lowder, born June 29, 1733
 Abigail, daughter of John and Elizabeth Lowder, born Oct. 25, 1734
 Mary, daughter of John and Elizabeth Lowder, born Feb. 4, 1735/6
 Mary, daughter of John and Patricia Osburn, born June 5, 1735
 Ezekiel, son of Jonathan and Rebeckah Osburn, born Oct. 16, 1733
 Jonah, son of Jonathan and Rebekah Osburn, born Oct. 4, 1735
 Lyddia, daughter of Jonathan and Lydia Abbott, born August 8, 1736
 Josiah, son of Peter and Mary Benedict, born Sept. 24, 1736
 Mary, daughter of Thomas and Elizabeth Willson, born Oct 6, 1735
 Daniel, son of John and Elizabeth Rockwell, born Feb. 27, 1735/6
 Abijah, son of Josiah and Elizabeth Gilbird, born Jan. 20, 1735/6
 James, son of Samuel and Sarah Saintjohn, born Oct. 27, 1736
 Joseph, son of Joseph and Esther Jennings, born Oct. 18, 1738
 Children of Daniel and Ruth Sherwood

Hannah	born	March	7, 1712
Daniel	"	Nov.	21, 1714
Abigail	"	April	3, 1716
Nathan	"	May	16, 1720
Ruth	"	March	29, 1722
Isaac	"	Feb.	8, 1723/4
John	"	March	15, 1729
Sarah	"	May	26, 1731

James, son of John and Patience Osburn, born Jan. 27, 1736/7
 James, son of David and Rachel Osburn, born Sept. 17, 1733
 Aaron, son of David and Rachel Osburn, born Sept. 29, 1735
 Timothy, son of Timothy and Keziah Canfield, born Sept. 2, 1736
 Joseph, son of Joseph and Susanah Benedict, born Feb. 17, 1732/3
 Jeremiah, son of Joseph and Susanah Benedict, born May 14, 1735
 Susanah, daughter of Joseph and Susanah Benedict, born March 25, 1736
 Ziporah, daughter of Michael Dimeratt, born March 23, 1730
 John, son of Michael Dimeratt, born July 13, 1734
 Mary, daughter of Michael Dimeratt, born Oct. 29, 1736
 Elizabeth, daughter of Ebenezer and Jane Brooks, born July 18, 1737
 Rhoda, daughter of Benjamin and Hannah Benedict, born Oct. 13, 1732
 Marah, daughter of Benjamin and Hannah Benedict, born April 30, 1735
 Benjamin, son of Benjamin and Hannah Benedict, born August 25, 1737
 Hannah, daughter of Matthew and Hannah Seamore, born Nov. 15, 1737
 Uriah, son of Nathan and Sarah Whitne, born November 12, 1737
 Josiah, son of Jabez and Keziah Rockwell, born July 11, 1737
 Mary Burt, daughter of Christopher and Johanna Burt, born Oct. 28, 1736
 Sarah, daughter of Josiah and Ruth Smith, born Sept. 17, 1730
 Jabez Smith, son of Jabish and Ruth Smith, born Dec. 12, 1731
 Abraham, son of Jabish and Ruth Smith, born June 6, 1733
 Joel, son of Jabish and Ruth Smith, born 1735/6

Ruth, daughter of Jabish and Ruth Smith, born Jan. 16, 1736/7
 Samuel, son of Ichabod and Ruth Cole, born Jan. 9, 1734/5
 Ruth, daughter of Ichabod and Ruth Cole, born Dec. 14, 1736
 Mary, daughter of John and Elizabeth Lowder, born March 14, 1737
 Samuel, son of Samuel and Mary Keeler, born June 23, 1737
 Sarah, daughter of Timothy and Sarah Benedict, born April 13, 1735
 Abiah, daughter of Timothy and Sarah Benedict, born Dec. 20, 1736
 Jonathan, son of Samuel and Rachel Gates, born Dec. 5, 1734
 Samuel, son of Samuel and Rachel Gates, born Dec. 3, 1736
 Mary, daughter of Samuel and Rachel Gates, born Jan. 27, 1738/9
 Sarah, daughter of Benjamin and Sarah Stebbins, born April 15, 1737
 Elizabeth, daughter of Recompense and Elizabeth Thomas, born June 18, 1731/2
 Recompense, son of Recompense and Elizabeth Thomas, born Jan. 28, 1734/5
 Jerusha, daughter of Recompense and Elizabeth Thomas, born Feb. 17, 1735/6
 Daniel, son of Thomas and Elizabeth Willson, born Jan. 21, 1737/8
 Hannah, daughter of Thomas and Ruth Rockwell, born Feb. 24, 1735/6
 Ruth, daughter of Thomas and Ruth Rockwell, born November 30, 1737
 Ebenezer, son of Jacob and Deborah Jones, born Aug. 30, 1732
 James, son of Jacob and Deborah Jones, born Nov. 16, 1734
 Abigail, daughter of Jacob and Deborah Jones, born Mar. 20, 1737
 Gamaliel, son of Jonathan and Rebeckah Osburn, born Feb. 11, 1737/8
 NATHAN, son of BENJAMIN and REBECKAH ROCKWELL, born Nov. 22, 1737
 James, son of Vivus and Rachel Dauchy, born Nov. 30, 1734
 Mary, daughter of Vivus and Rachel Dauchy, born Nov. 25, 1736
 Abigail, daughter of Jonathan and Esther Rockwell, born Feb. 3, 1734/5
 Mary, daughter of Jonathan and Esther Rockwell, born March 9, 1736/7
 John, son of Lemuel and Martha Abbott, born April 1, 1738
 Hannah, daughter of Gideon and Sarah Smith, born Sept. 9, 1734
 Elijah, son of Gideon and Sarah Smith, born Dec. 29, 1735
 William, son of John and Rebeckah Northrop, born Feb. 6, 1737/8
 Eunice, daughter of Jabez and Sarah Northrop, born Oct. 3, 1735
 Jabez, son of Jabez and Sarah Northrop, born Aug. 14, 1737
 Deborah, daughter of Benjamin and Deborah Willson, born April 4, 1738
 Mary, daughter of Timothy and Sarah Keeler, born April 30, 1738
 Mehetable, daughter of John and Elizabeth Rockwell, born April 11, 1738
 Josiah, son of Joseph and Mary Osburn, born April 20, 1738
 Jeremiah, son of Nathan and Phebe Willson, born June 2, 1738
 Vivus, son of Vivus and Rachel Dauchy, born Oct. 7, 1738
 Hannah, daughter of David and Elizabeth Rockwell, born Aug. 11, 1738
 Thomas, son of Samuell and Sarah Saintjohn, born Oct. 12, 1738
 Stephen, son of Samuell and Sarah Gates, born July 11, 1737
 Ebenezer, son of John and Patience Osburn, born May 26, 1738
 Jonathan, son of Jonathan and Esther Rockwell, born Jan. 10, 1738/9
 Mary, daughter of Ichabod and Ruth Cole, born Jan. 30, 1739

Daniell, son of Ebenezer and Jane Brooks, born March 26, 1741
 Mary, daughter of Noah and Jane Saintjohn, born June 4, 1738
 James, son of James and Abigail Wallis, born April 30, 1737
 Elijah, son of Timothy and Kezia Canfield, born April 4, 1739
 Elizabeth, daughter of Michael Dimeratt, born Feb. 23, 1738/9
 Samuel, son of Ebenezer and Jane Brooks, born May 10, 1739
 Jonathan, son of Jonathan and Lydia Abbott, born April 29, 1729
 Hannah, daughter of Samuell and Mary Keeler, born Aug. 14, 1739
 Phebe, daughter of Thomas and Ruth Rockwell, born Oct. 1739
 Ann, daughter of Nathan and Sarah Whitne, born Aug. 31, 1739
 Hezekiah, son of Jeremiah and Rebeckah Osburn, born Sept. 5, 1739
 Daniell, son of Samuel and Abijah Olmsted, born June 7, 1737
 Abiah, daughter of Samuel and Abiah Olmsted, born Jan. 19, 1738/9
 Daniel, son of Benjamin and Hannah Goodrich, born Dec. 9, 1738
 Allen, daughter of Joseph and Allen Northrop, born May 13, 1739
 Stephen, son of Benjamin and Rebekah Rockwell, born Jan. 14, 1739/40
 Mahetable, daughter of Gamaliel and Mary Northrop, born May 13, 1738
 Daniel, son of Daniel and Jerusha Sherwood, born Jan. 21, 1736/7
 Ebenezer, son of Daniell and Jerusha Sherwood, born Jan. 15, 1738/9
 Martha, daughter of Lemuel and Martha Abbott, born March 16, 1739/40
 Nathan, son of Noah and Jane Saintjohn, born Dec. 3, 1739
 Ishmaol, a servant negro boy of Gamaliel Northrop's, born July 21, 1739
 Rachel, daughter of John and Elizabeth Rockwell, born April 9, 1740
 Jeremiah, son of Benjamin and Rebeckah Rockwell, born Nov. 12, 1742

Children of Lemuel and Mary Morehouse

Gabriel	born	Sept.	14, 1718
Nathan	"	Jan.	12, 1720
Mary	"	Sept.	4, 1722
Rachel	"	Feb.	11, 1727
Lemuel	"	Dec.	20, 1728
Thomas	"	Nov.	12, 1730
Rebeckah	"	July	9, 1732
James	"	Sept.	30, 1734
Hannah	"	March	20, 1737
John	"	June	10, 1739

Rachel, daughter of Gamaliel and Mary Northrop, born July 18, 1740
 Esther, daughter of Jonathan and Esther Rockwell, born Dec. 10, 1740
 Susannah, daughter of Joseph and Elonor Northrop, born Oct. 20, 1740
 Timothy, son of Timothy and Sarah Benedict, born Sept. 27, 1740
 Abigail, daughter of James and Abigail Wallis, born Dec. 21, 1740
 Abigail, daughter of Joseph and Mary Osburn, born March 1, 1740/1
 Mary, daughter of Daniell and Agnis Benedict, born November 15, 1740
 Sarah, daughter of John and Kezia Sturdevant, born April 3, 1737
 Jane, daughter of John and Kezia Sturdevant, born June 6, 1739
 Mary, daughter of Recompense and Elizabeth Thomas, born March 4, 1739/40
 Silas, son of Timothy and KoZIAH Canfield, born April 24, 1741

Abigail, daughter of John and Patience Osburn, born July 10, 1740

Mary, daughter of Joseph and Mary Osburn, born May 13, 1743

Children of Joseph and Lydia Crofutt

Samuel	born	Jan.	23, 1727/8
Ebenezer	"	Apr.	30, 1730
Phebe	"	Feb.	3, 1731/2
Elizabeth	"	July	5, 1734
Lydia	"	Dec.	13, 1736
Sarah	"	Mar.	4, 1739/40

Mary, daughter of Peter and Agnis Benedict, born Dec. 24, 1738

Abner, son of Peter and Agnis Benedict, born Nov. 10, 1740

Sarah, daughter of Jabez and Sarah Northrup, born June 21, 1741

Jeremiah, son of Jeremiah and Rebeckah Osburn, born March 3, 1740/1

Deborah, daughter of Benjamin and Deborah Willson, born April 4, 1738

Samuel, son of Benjamin and Deborah Willson, born July 24, 1739

Abiah, daughter of Benjamin and Deborah Willson, born March 4, 1740/1

Ephraim, son of Josiah and Elizabeth Gilburt, born April 1, 1740

Hannah, daughter of Ichabod and Ruth Cole, born February 9, 1740/1

Phebe, daughter of Joseph and Jane Keeler, born Dec. 24, 1737

Joseph, son of Joseph and Jane Keeler, born Jan. 31, 1739/40

Benjamin, son of Joseph and Jane Keeler, born May 23, 1742

Eliphelet, son of Benjamin and Esther Bradley, born Jan. 25, 1738/9

Benjamin, son of Benjamin and Esther Bradley, born Oct. 19, 1741

Mary, daughter of John and Rebeckah Northrop, born Sept. 1, 1740

Jonathan, son of John and Mary Douglas, born Nov. 8, 1733

Abigail, daughter of John and Mary Douglas, born Jan. 10, 1735/6

Mary, daughter of John and Mary Douglas, born Feb. 28, 1737/8

Anna, daughter of John and Mary Douglas, born Aug. 18, 1740

Children of Robert and Deborah Farquhar

Mary	born	Nov.	28, 1740
John	"	Oct.	27, 1742
Deborah	"	Oct.	20, 1744

Ebenezer, son of Robert and Susannah Farquhar, born April 11, 1753

Children of Lemuel and Sarah Morehouse

Mary	born	May	19, 1752
Levi	"	Sept.	16, 1753
James	"	May	2, 1755
Rachel	"	Jan.	7, 1757

Children of John and Lucy Benedict

Alexander	born	Dec.	22, 1739
Lucy	"	June	6, 1741
Samuel	"	Apr.	26, 1743
John	"	June	16, 1745
Elijah	"	Oct.	6, 1747

Children of Benjamin and Hannah Goodrich

Abigail	born	Feb.	26, 1739/40
Benjamin	"	Jan.	17, 1741/2
Samuel	"	Dec.	6, 1743
Nathan	"	Sept.	21, 1745
David	"	July	22, 1747
Elizer	"	Sept.	19, 1751
Hannah	"	Oct.	23, 1753
Hezekiah	"	Dec.	15, 1755
Jeremiah	"	Nov.	16, 1757
Josiah	"	April	20, 1760
Children of Benjamin and Martha Keeler			
Martha	born	Aug.	28, 1757
Sarah	"	Apr.	26, 1760
Children of Matthew and Dinah Seamore			
Nathan	born	Apr.	15, 1758
Daniel	"	Apr.	21, 1760
Sarah, daughter of Rev. Mr. Jonathan and Mrs. Dorcas Ingersoll, born Oct. 28, 1741			
Sarah, daughter of Lemuel and Martha Abbott, born March 30, 1742			
Joseph, son of Thomas and Adar Smith, born May 3, 1742			
Joseph, son of Christopher and Joanna Burt, born Sept. 8, 1742			
Mary, daughter of Daniel and Thankful Whitne, born Sept. 16, 1742			
Benjamin, son of Samuell Smith, 3rd, and Ruth Smith, born Dec. 10, 1741			
Eli, son of Eli and Abigail Northrop, born Feb. 2, 1742			
Gamaliel, son of Gamaliel and Mary Northrop, born Dec. 5, 1742			
Abigail, daughter of David and Elizabeth Rockwell, born Jan. 4, 1740/1			
Rebeckah, daughter of David and Elizabeth Rockwell, born Mar. 29, 1741			
Dorcas, daughter of Rev. Mr. Jonathan and Mrs. Dorcas Ingersoll, born Oct. 15, 1743			
Daniel, son of John and Patience Osburn, born Dec. 25, 1742			
Neomas, son of James and Abigail Wallis, born May 30, 1743			
Benjamin, son of Benjamin and Deborah Willson, born Nov. 25, 1743			
Phebe, daughter of Samuel Gates, Sr., and Sarah Gates, born July 20, 1739			
Daniel, son of Samuel Gates, Sr., and Sarah Gates, born Oct. 20, 1741			
Hezekiah, son of Ichabod and Ruth Cole, born April 19, 1743			
Abigail, daughter of Daniell and Betty Smith, born Feb. 17, 1742/3			
Joanna, daughter of Samuel Smith, 3rd and Ruth Smith, born Oct. 17, 1743			
John, son of John and Elizabeth Lowder, born Aug. 6, 1739			
Jonathan, son of John and Elizabeth Lowder, born May 28, 1741			
Adonijah, son of Gabriel and Rebeckah Morehouse, born Jan. 29, 1740/1			
Daniel, son of Gabriel and Rebeckah Morehouse, born March 29, 1742			
Rebeckah, daughter of Samuel and Sarah St. John, born June 18, 1743			
Lois, daughter of Jabez and Sarah Northrop, born Feb. 16, 1743/4			
Samuel, son of Samuel Smith 4th, and Mary Smith, born Dec. 21, 1743			
Ebenezer, son of Jonathan and Esther Rockwell, born Sept. 3, 1742			
Millicent, daughter of Nathan and Millicent Olmsted, born March 21, 1741/2			

Elizabeth, daughter of Lemuel and Martha Abbott, born Feb. 27, 1743/4
 Rebeckah, daughter of Ebenezer and Jane Brooks, born Dec. 18, 1742
 Ruhamah, daughter of Daniel and Thankful Whitne, born Apr. 10, 1744
 Philip, son of Vivus and Rachel Dauchy, born Jan. 1743/4
 Nathan, son of Nathan and Millicent Olmsted, born May 8, 1744
 Seth, son of Joseph and Jane Keeler, born June 30, 1744
 Phebe, daughter of Joseph and Rachel Doolittle, born Feb. 17, 1744/5
 Silas, son of John and Elizabeth Rockwell, born Sept. 5, 1742
 Ezra, son of Nathan and Phebe Willson, born Feb. 14, 1744/5
 Ruth, daughter of John and Rebeckah Northrop, born Jan. 11, 1742/3
 Betty, daughter of Ebenezer and Deborah Grumman, born March 15, 1743/4
 Daniel, son of Samuel Smith, 4th, and Mary Smith, born June 17, 1745
 James, son of James and Rachel Northrop, born Jan. 22, 1744/5
 Abigail, daughter of Joseph and Abigail Hawley, born Oct. 18, 1745
 Ruth, daughter of Samuel Smith, 3rd, and Ruth Smith, born Oct. 13, 1745
 Jonathan, son of Ichabod and Ruth Cole, born Oct. 13, 1745
 Abigail, daughter of Thomas and Hannah Hyatt, born Oct. 29, 1743
 Hannah, daughter of Thomas and Hannah Hyatt, born Aug. 31, 1745
 Phebe, daughter of Job and Sarah Smith, born Sept. 24, 1745
 Thaddeus, son of Timothy and Kezia Canfield, born April 22, 1744
 Joanna, daughter of Eli and Abigail Northrop, born Aug. 5, 1745
 Hannah, daughter of Aaron and Rebeckah Northrup, born Dec. 5, 1744
 Betty, daughter of Daniel and Betty Smith, born August 15, 1745
 Sarah, daughter of John and Sarah Smith, born Dec. 8, 1740
 Elizabeth, daughter of John and Sarah Smith, born Aug. 31, 1743
 Ruth, daughter of John and Ruth Lobdell, born Mar. 26, 1745
 Daniel, son of Daniel and Thankful Whitne, born Jan. 12, 1775
 Joseph, son of Ebenezer and Jane Brooks, born May 21, 1745
 Joseph, son of Joseph and Allen Northrup, born Mar. 20, 1742/3
 Samuel, son of Joseph and Allen Northrup, born Nov. 26, 1744
 Anna, daughter of Joseph and Allon Northrop, born Sept. 10, 1745
 Philip, son of James and Elizabeth Jones, born Dec. 10, 1760
 Thankful, daughter of Thomas and Ruth Rockwell, born Feb. 25, 1742/3
 Martha, daughter of Thomas and Ruth Rockwell, born May 12, 1744
 Thomas, son of Thomas and Ruth Rockwell, born Jan. 16, 1745/6
 Gideon, son of Gideon and Sarah Smith, born July 27, 1739
 Enos, son of Gideon and Sarah Smith, born March 6, 1753
 Ephraim, son of Gideon and Sarah Smith, born April 20, 1742
 James, son of Gideon and Sarah Smith, born March 6, 1745/6
 Ezekiel, son of Gideon and Sarah Smith, born June 11, 1749
 Children of Samuel and Mary Keeler
 Sarah born Dec. 3, 1741
 Mary " Feb. 14, 1734
 Abigail " Apr. 7, 1746
 Thomas, son of David and Elizabeth Rockwell, born May 23, 1745
 Colman, son of Samuel and Mary Isaac, born Sept. 1, 1745
 Abigail, daughter of Samuel and Mary Isaac, born Oct. 2, 1746

Sarah, daughter of Nathan and Sarah Smith, born Oct. 15, 1745

Mary, daughter of James and Abigail Wallis, born August 25, 1746

Ebenezer, son of Joseph and Jane Keeler, born May 19, 1746

Elizabeth, daughter of Benjamin and Elizabeth Stebbins, born Aug. 10, 1746

Children of Elijah and Hannah Hawley

Hannah born Jan. 29, 1743/4

Ezekiel " Mar. 10, 1745/6

Children of Timothy and Elizabeth Street

Sarah born Dec. 3, 1744

Timothy " May 20, 1746

John, son of John and Sarah Smith, born Oct. 6, 1746

Dorothy, daughter of Joseph and Abigail Hawley, born Nov. 30, 1746

Ebenezer, son of Joseph and James Keeler, born May 19, 1746

Thomas, son of Thomas and Adar Smith, born July 28, 1744

Annam, daughter of Thomas and Adar Smith, born Sept. 9, 1746

Benjamin, son of Richard and Abigail Olmsted, born Dec. 5, 1741

Abigail, daughter of Richard and Abigail Olmsted, born Jan. 14, 1743/4

Benjamin, son of Richard and Abigail Olmsted, born Nov. 15, 1745

Jeremiah, son of Jeremiah and Rebeckah Osburn, born April 30, 1745

Mary, daughter of James and Mary Benedict, born March 31, 1741

Sarah, daughter of James and Mary Benedict, born Feb. 6, 1743

James, son of James and Mary Benedict, born May 8, 1745

Jonathan, son of Jonathan and Sarah Brooks, born Sept. 30, 1745

Phebe, daughter of Jonathan and Sarah Brooks, born Nov. 12, 1746

Elizabeth, daughter of Nathan and Millicent Olmsted, born July 26, 1744

David, son of Nathan and Hannah Stjohn, born Nov. 18, 1738

Josiah, son of Josiah and Anna Foster, born Jan. 3, 1776/7

Abner, son of David and Elizabeth Rockwell, born Jan. 18, 1746/7

Sarah, daughter of Thomas and Elizabeth Willson, born Aug. 13, 1742

Abner, son of Thomas and Elizabeth Willson, born June 5, 1744

Jane, daughter of Thomas and Elizabeth Willson, born Mar. 17, 1746

Joshua, son of Gabriel and Rebeckah Morehouse, born Feb. 22, 1743/4

Martha, daughter of Gabriel and Rebeckah Morehouse, born Aug. 7, 1746

Nathan, son of Vivus and Rachel Dauchy, born Jan. 29, 1746/7

Ebenezer, son of Ebenezer and Deborah Grumman, born June 25, 1746

Elijah, son of John and Elizabeth Rockwell, born Mar. 30, 1745

Mary, daughter of Timothy and Mary Keeler, born Jan. 28, 1745/6

Henry, son of Daniel and Jerusha Sherwood, born Nov. 18, 1741

Elizabeth, daughter of Daniel and Jerusha Sherwood, born May 5, 1744

Ruth, daughter of Daniel and Jerusha Sherwood, born June 11, 1746

Hannah, daughter of Nathan and Lois Sherwood, born Oct. 2, 1744

Lois, daughter of Nathan and Lois Sherwood, born March 5, 1751

Uzziel, son of Joseph and Mary Osburn, born May 29, 1746

Samuel, son of James and Rachel Northrop, born Mar. 5, 1746/7

Jonathan, son of Rev. Jonathan and Mrs. Dorcas Ingersoll, born Apr. 16, 1747

Jane, daughter of Eli and Abigail Northrop, born Oct. 21, 1747
John, son of James and Mary Benedict, born Apr. 22, 1747
Marah, daughter of Richard and Abigail Olmsted, born Apr. 20, 1747
John, son of John and Ruth Lobdell, born Sept. 21, 1746
Betty, daughter of Recompense and Elizabeth Thomas, born Apr. 16, 1742
John, son of Recompense and Elizabeth Thomas, born June 19, 1744
Hannah, daughter of Recompense and Elizabeth Thomas, born April 8, 1746
Mary, daughter of Lemuel and Martha Abbott, born Oct. 29, 1777
Rebeckah, daughter of Samuel and Sarah St. John, born June 18, 1743
Jacob, son of Samuel and Sarah St. John, born Aug. 30, 1745
Sarah, daughter of John and Elizabeth Rockwell, born July 24, 1747
Sarah, daughter of Samuel Smith, 4th, and Mary Smith, born June 3, 1748
Timothy, son of Timothy and Mary Keeler, born May 10, 1748
Daniel, son of Daniel and Betty Smith, born Sept. 9, 1748
John, son of Samuel and Sarah St. John, born April 11, 1753
Daniel, son of Samuel and Sarah St. John, born July 16, 1748
Ezekiel, son of Benjamin and Hannah Goodrich, born Apr. 31, 1740
Son of Jonathan and Esther Rockwell, born Dec. 13, 1743
Jemimah, daughter of James and Mary Benedict, born July 25, 1749
Abraham, son of John and Elizabeth Rockwell, born Oct. 5, 1749
David, son of Nathan and Millicent Olmsted, born Nov. 20, 1748
Hezekiah, son of Nathan and Millicent Olmsted, born Dec. 16, 1750
Martha, daughter of Samuel and Sarah St. John, born July 2, 1750
Stephen, son of Stephen and Hannah Olmsted, born March 8, 1748
James, son of Stephen and Hannah Olmsted, born Sept. 18, 1749
Rebeckah, daughter of Timothy and Rebeckah Wood, born August 15, 1750
Phebe, daughter of Samuel and Martha Abbott, born May 24, 1750
James, son of Thomas and Ruth Rockwell, born June 9, 1750
Anne, daughter of Daniel and Thankful Whitne, born May 23, 1748
Elizabeth, daughter of Jonathan and Esther Rockwell, born Oct. 15, 1747
Benjamin, son of Daniel and Thankfull Whitne, born June 5, 1750
Jacob, son of Henry and Abigail Elias, born April 7, 1751
Moses, son of David and Rachel Osborn, born Dec. 23, 1731
Jeremiah, son of Ebenezer and Ann Stebbins, born Nov. 12, 1748
Seth, son of David and Rachel Osborn, born April 23, 1744
John, son of Thomas and Elizabeth Hawley, born June 5, 1751
Sarah, daughter of Benjamin and Deborah Wilson, born June 14, 1746
Jane, daughter of Benjamin and Deborah Wilson born Dec. 4, 174
Abigail, daughter of Benjamin and Deborah Wilson, born Nov. 20, 175
Sarah, daughter of Matthew and Comfort Seamore, born Sept. 19, 17
Ellenor, daughter of John and Elizabeth Rockwell, born July 13, 1752
Ruth Smith, daughter of Lemuel and Sarah Morehouse, born Dec. 5, 1755
Nathaniel, son of Isaac and Rachel Keeler, born Nov. 3, 1760
Abigail Cole, daughter of Ichabod and Ruth Cole, born July 2, 1748

Children of Benjamin and Elizabeth Stebbins

Benjamin	born	Apr.	12, 1748
Hannah	"	Jan.	13, 1750
Ebenezer	"	Nov.	30, 1754
Sarah	"	Dec.	29, 1760

Children of Rev. Jonathan and Mrs. Dorcas Ingersoll

Jonathan	born	April	16, 1747
Mary	"	Dec.	20, 1748
Abigail	"	May	7, 1751
Joseph	"	Aug.	11, 1753
Hannah	"	Apr.	9, 1756
Esther	"	Aug.	10, 1760
Moss	"	June	9, 1763

Children of Samuel and Ruth Smith

Jesse	born	Dec.	13, 1748
Martha	"	Aug.	20, 1752
Nathan	"	July	17, 1753

Children of Ebenezer and Hannah Smith

Mehetabel	born	July	3, 1748
Hannah	"	July	13, 1750
Ebenezer	"	Aug.	18, 1752
Martha	"	Aug.	24, 1756
Ebenezer	"	Oct.	3, 1761

Paddock, son of Caleb and Bithiah Lobdell, born July 20, 1760

Thomas, son of Recompense and Sarah Thomas, born July 23, 1758

Daniel, son of Daniel and Agness Benedict, born April 2, 1743

Rachel, daughter of Agness and Daniel Benedict, born Feb. 27, 1745/6

Children of Thomas and Adah Smith

Rebeckah	born	Jan.	6, 1748/9
Mehetible	"	Feb.	14, 1751
Hezekiah	"	Sept.	23, 1755
Ezra	"	Mar.	28, 1758
Dorcas	"	Aug.	21, 1760

Children of Henry and Abigail Elias

Mary	born	Feb.	14, 1747/8
Henry	"	May	26, 1753

Children of Eli and Abigail Northrop

Esther	born	Jan.	18, 1749/50
Benajah	"	Mar.	27, 1752
Wilson	"	Apr.	7, 1754
Joanna	"	Aug.	6, 1745

Children of John and Ruth Lobdell

Caleb	born	Jan.	4, 1748/9
Abijah	"	May	4, 1753
Hannah	"	June	4, 1755
Daniel	"	Sept.	22, 1757
Lewis	"	Mar.	7, 1760

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Children of Nathan and Lois Sherwood

Zadoc	born	Apr.	19, 1761
Ann	"	Mar.	3, 1747/8
Nathan	"	Jan.	4, 1751/2
Reuben	"	Oct.	11, 1754

Children of Isaiah and Sarah Birchard

Lydia	born	May	5, 1754
Uriah	"	Feb.	23, 1757

Children of Nathan and Sarah Hauley

Joseph	born	Mar.	8, 1748/9
John	"	Feb.	10, 1751

Children of James and Jerusha Saintjohn

Sarah	born	Sept.	23, 1758
James	"	Sept.	28, 1760

Ruth, daughter of Joseph and Abigail Stanley, born Dec. 10, 174

Children of Lemuel and Martha Abbott

Hannah	born	May	3, 1752
James	"	June	15, 1754
Ezra	"	July	21, 1756

James, son of Thomas and Susannah Saintjohn, born July 23, 1759

Children of Thomas and Rachel Northrop

Martha	born	June	8, 1747
Thomas	"	Sept.	26, 1751

Children of Lemuel Abbott, Jr. and Rebeckah Abbott

Anna	born	Aug.	15, 1756
Sarah	"	Oct.	28, 1759
Noah	"	Jan.	28, 1761

Children of James and Martha Scott

Sarah	born	Mar.	14, 1745/6
James	"	Jan.	14, 1747/8
Martha	"	Oct.	6, 1749
Huldah	"	Nov.	26, 1752
John	"	Apr.	18, 1755

Children of James and Rachel Northrop

Matthew	born	Apr.	6, 1749
James	"	July	15, 1751
Baekel	"	Jan.	28, 1754
Hannah	"	Feb.	28, 1755
Stephen	"	Jan.	22, 1759

Children of John and Sarah Smith

Lydia	born	Aug.	6, 1749
Jeremiah	"	Oct.	10, 1752

Jeremiah, son of Aaron and Hannah Osborn, born Aug. 12, 1757

Children of Josiah and Anna Foster

Keziah	born	Mar.	15, 1748/9
John	"	Dec.	15, 1750
William	"	Apr.	7, 1753
Vincent	"	Sept.	19, 1754
Anne	"	July	19, 1756
Thomas	"	Sept.	25, 1758

Children of Daniel and Betty Smith

Benajah	born	Oct.	9, 1749
Anne	"	Mar.	16, 1752
Job	"	Nov.	3, 1754
Nehemiah	"	Jan.	3, 1759
Sarah	"	Sept.	4, 1739

Children of James and Abigail Wallace

Abijah	born	Aug.	13, 1748
Uriah	"	Oct.	22, 1750
Sarah	"	July	28, 1752
Jacob	"	June	17, 1754
Lucy	"	April	10, 1757

Jesse, son of Ichabod and Mindwell Cole, born August 16, 1752

Children of Henry and Elizabeth Whitney

Betty	born	April	30, 1756
Sarah	"	July	23, 1759
Rebeckah	"	Feb.	18, 1761

Children of Stephen and Sarah Smith

Sarah	born	Oct.	15, 1745
Abel	"	Dec.	23, 1747
Stephen	"	Apr.	13, 1749
Anne	"	Oct.	12, 1753
Hannah	"	Sept.	22, 1755
Abijah	"	Apr.	10, 1760
Thaddeus	"	June	12, 1762
George	"	June	12, 1767

Children of Recompense and Elisabeth Thomas

Phebe	born	May	23, 1747
Abraham	"	June	30, 1751
Daniel	"	Nov.	30, 1754
Rebeckah	"	Sept.	5, 1756

Children of Timothy and Sarah Foster

Hannah	born	Dec.	10, 1749
Jonah	"	Nov.	14, 1751

Hannah, daughter of Jonathan and Hannah Rockwell, born Oct. 6, 17

Children of Samuel and Mary Smith

Mary	born	Aug.	24, 1750
Rachel	"	Oct.	23, 1752

Children of Daniel and Agness Benedict

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James	born	May	30, 1750
Sarah	"	May	13, 1752
Benjamin	"	Aug.	22, 1754
Martha	"	Jan.	14, 1757

Children of Joseph and Anna Follet

Hannah	born	Sept.	13, 1738
Rebeckah	"	Jan.	9, 1740/1
Sarah	"	July	6, 1749
John	"	Aug.	22, 1754

Children of Isaac and Mary Keeler

Isaac	born	Aug.	8, 1739
Josiah	"	June	22, 1741
Jacob	"	July	5, 1743
Elijah	"	June	26, 1745
Mary	"	June	3, 1747
Gabriel	"	Apr.	23, 1749

Abijah, son of David and Elizabeth Rockwell, born July 1, 1751
 Samuel, son of John and Rebeckah Northrup, born Feb. 2, 1746
 Benjamin, son of John and Hannah Sherwood, born Apr. 10, 1753
 Mary, daughter of Silas and Mary Baldwin, born June 10, 1759
 Lewis, son of Jabez and Sarah Northrop, born Oct. 14, 1752
 Caleb, son of Caleb and Elizabeth Lobdell, born June 4, 1751
 Lydia, daughter of Michael and Hannah Abbott, born April 10, 1757
 Dorcas, daughter of Josiah and Ruth Stebbins, born Dec. 6, 1750
 Elizabeth, daughter of Daniel and Thankfull Whitne, born Nov. 21, 1752
 Mary, daughter of Darius and Mary Lobdell, born Dec. 17, 1752
 Ezekiel, son of Ezekiel and Hannah Wilson, born Sept. 29, 1756
 David, son of Daniel and Abigail Rockwell, born Aug. 30, 1760
 James, son of Hezekiah and Abigail Osborn, born Jan. 23, 1760
 Son of Elijah and Elizabeth Smith, born March 20, 1760
 Mary, daughter of Samuell & Sarah Jacklin, born Dec. 31, 1744
 Nathan, son of Gideon and Rachel Betts, born Aug. 13, 1753
 Sally, daughter of Uriah and Phebe White, born Oct. 2, 1759
 Jonathan, son of James and Ruth Tongue, born Feb. 2, 1744/5
 Cloe, daughter of Daniel and Abigail Rockwell, born April 13, 1762
 Phebe, daughter of James and Jemima Benedict, born Aug. 14, 1753
 Thomas, son of John and Patience Raygon, born Sept. 22, 1756
 Dorcas, daughter of George and Thankfull Foliet, born Feb. 28, 1761
 Hannah Dixon, daughter of Susannah Baldwin, born Jan. 9, 1744/5
 Betty, daughter of Robert and Susannah Farquhar, born Jan. 11, 1756

Children of Elijah and Sarah Keeler

Sarah	born	Oct.	16, 1749
Rebeckah	"	Apr.	29, 1751
Free Love	"	Jan.	12, 1754
Elijah	"	Jan.	12, 1756
Levi	"	Apr.	3, 1758

Children of Jacob and Sarah Smith

Mary	born	June	10, 1750
Jacob	"	Oct.	26, 1752
Abigail	"	Nov.	17, 1754

Children of Timothy and Elizabeth Street

Mary	born	July	7, 1754
John	"	Oct.	2, 1756
Samuel	"	Feb.	20, 1760

Children of Samuel and Rachel Gates

Thomas	born	Jan.	6, 1740/1
Rachel	"	Apr.	16, 1743
Abigail	"	Sept.	10, 1746
Betty	"	Apr.	7, 1746
Elijah	"	Mar.	16, 1749/50
James	"	Aug.	15, 1752

Children of Abraham and Mary Betts

Mary	born	Dec.	12, 1753
Gilead	"	June	22, 1755
Abraham	"	May	31, 1757
Eunice	"	Oct.	13, 1760

Children of John Rockwell, Jr., and Hannah Rockwell

John	born	Apr.	7, 1755
Jeremiah	"	July	19, 1756

Children of John and Esther Benedict

Esther	born	Jan.	12, 1750/1
John and Sarah	"	Mar.	7, 1753
Esther	"	Feb.	25, 1757
Delight	"	Apr.	26, 1759

Children of Nathan and Naomi Wilson

Stephen	born	Feb.	28, 1755
Jared	"	Dec.	17, 1756

Children of Seaborn and Susannah Burt

Thankful	born	Nov.	3, 1738
Benjamin	"	Dec.	29, 1741
Joshua	"	Mar.	25, 1743
Mary	"	May	12, 1746
Susannah	"	Aug.	18, 1748
David	"	Feb.	12, 1750
Theophilus	"	May	14, 1752 — died Sept., 1753
Theophilus, 2nd	"	Mar.	31, 1756

Children of Daniel and Elizabeth Jackson

Mary	born	Nov.	24, 1758
Deborah	"	Oct.	16, 1760

Children of Joseph and Ruth Hobart

Sarah	born	Oct.	30, 1749
Joseph	"	Aug.	15, 1751

BIRTHS

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Children of John and Mary Wilson

John	born	Oct.	12, 1756
Stephen	"	Jan.	27, 1758

Children of Solomon and Priscilla Perry

Gilbert	born	July	9, 1752
Freeman	"	Oct.	22, 1753
Penellipa	"	Sept.	10, 1755
Anna	"	Apr.	16, 1758

Children of Samuel and Mary Keeler

James	born	June	13, 1748
Daniel	"	July	13, 1750
Nehemiah	"	July	24, 1753
Lydia	"	May	26, 1757

Children of Elijah and Hannah Hauley

Molly	"	Nov.	15,
Elijah	"	June	5, 1753
Molly, 2nd	"	Apr.	4, 1756
Dorcas	"	Dec.	6, 1750

Children of Joseph and Jane Keeler

Ezra	born	July	16, 1748
Jane	"	July	24, 1750

Children of Jonah Smith, Jr., and Anne Smith

Anne	born	Dec.	1, 1755
Chloe	"	Mar.	5, 1757

Children of Isaac and Naomi Sherwood

Joanna	born	Feb.	22, 1752
Hannah	"	July	17, 1754
Sarah	"	June	12, 1757
Mary	"	May	21, 1759

Children of Aaron and Rebeckah Northrup

Mary	born	Oct.	13, 1746
Sarah	"	Aug.	22, 1749
Aaron	"	June	21, 17
Rebeckah	"	Mar.	7, 1754
Millicent	"	Feb.	25, 1757
Josiah	"	May	28, 1759

Children of John and Sarah Keeler

Sarah	born	July	12, 1751
John	"	Jan.	10, 1753

Children of Jonathan and Sarah Brooks

Sarah	born	Feb.	16, 1747
Jeremiah	"	Apr.	22, 1750
Martha	"	Feb.	20, 1752
Ruth	"	Nov.	9, 1753
John	"	Dec.	4, 1755

Children of John and Abigail Wood

Abigail	born	Dec.	9, 1752
Anna	"	Feb.	13, 1754
John	"	Apr.	27, 1755
Titus	"	Nov.	6, 1756

Children of Vivus and Hannah Dauchy

Daniel	born	Jan.	23, 1752
Jeremiah	"	Nov.	1, 1755
Thomas	"	Nov.	5, 1757
Vivus	"	Dec.	8, 1759

Children of James and Lydia Whitne

James	born	May	28, 1751
Thomas	"	June	19, 1753

Children of Stephen and Hannah Olmsted

Hannah	born	Aug.	20, 1751
Nehemiah	"	Jan.	7, 1754
Anna	"	Jan.	19, 1755

Children of Timothy and Mary Keeler

Thaddeus	born	Apr.	2, 1752
Sarah	"	Apr.	4, 1754
Abigail	"	June	8, 1756
Jonathan	"	May	14, 1758
Jeremiah	"	May	6, 1760

Children of Silas and Abigail Keeler

Betty	born	Jan.	3, 1748
Abigail	"	May	30, 1750
Lydia	"	Nov.	4, 1751

Children of David and Hannah Scott

David	born	June	11, 1752
James	"	June	2, 1754
Gideon	"	Dec.	12, 1755
Sarah	"	Feb.	11, 1758

Children of James and Lydia Northrop

Benjamin	born	Oct.	26, 1747
John	"	Nov.	28, 1743
Ambros	"	Apr.	30, 1740

Children of Thomas and Jane Benedict

Thomas	born	Feb.	27, 1753
Aaron	"	Apr.	15, 1755
Darius	"	Dec.	6, 1758
Joseph	"	Oct.	26, 1760

Children of Jonathan and Betty Olmsted

Betty	born	Aug.	22, 1746
Hannah	"	Jan.	24, 1747

BIRTHS

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Children of Nathan and Mary Smith

Abner	born	Nov.	9, 1757
Nathan	"	June	7, 1759
Agness	"	Oct.	2, 1760

Children of Ambros and Martha Olmsted

Abigail	born	July	5, 1743
Martha	"	Apr.	14, 1745
Ambros	"	Mar.	10, 1747
Mary	"	Sept.	3, 1749
Ruth	"	Aug.	5, 1751
Phebe	"	Aug.	7, 1754

Children of Ezekiel and Lydia Olmsted

Lydia	born	Oct.	3, 1751
Jonathan	"	Dec.	23, 1753

Children of Ebenezer and Rebeckah Lobdell

Ebenezer	born	July	13, 1735
Thomas	"	Nov.	2, 1737
Gabriel	"	Mar.	15, 1740

Children of Ebenezer and Rebeckah Gilbert

Hezekiah	born	Oct.	14, 1735
Elisha	"	May	4, 1738, (died at Valley Forge)
Rebeckah	"	Nov.	14, 1740
Isaac	"	Oct.	25, 1742
Abner	"	Jan.	10, 1745
Joel	"	Feb.	25, 1747
Ebenezer	"	Feb.	6, 1749/50
Samuel	"	Aug.	17, 1752
David	"	Apr.	26, 1755

Children of Ebenezer and Rebeckah Keeler

Rachel	born	May	22, 1742
Eunice	"	Sept.	17, 1744
Sarah	"	Sept.	10, 1746
Burrel	"	Feb.	24, 1749
Rebeckah	"	Feb.	20, 1751
Samuel	"	July	12, 1753

Children of Isaac and Anne Keeler

Anne	born	Feb.	26, 173
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Sarah, daughter of Bartholomew and Sarah Weed, born Oct. 6, 1755
 Timothy, son of Bartholomew and Sarah Weed, born May 22, 1758
 Elijah, son of Bartholomew and Sarah Weed, born Aug. 30, 1761

Children of John and Clements Smith

Lydia	born	Nov.	19, 1752
Abijah	"	Dec.	12, 1757
John	"	Mar.	15, 1759

Children of Joseph and Zibiah Foster

Zibiah	born	Jan.	30, 1749/50
Albert	"	Oct.	10, 1751
Elizabeth	"	Aug.	26, 1753
Molly	"	Apr.	18, 1756

Children of Samuel and Anne Starr

Noah	born	Mar.	24, 1753
Abigail	"	July	22, 1754
Sarah	"	Mar.	27, 1756
Anne	"	Nov.	7, 1757
Peter	"	Sept.	1, 1759
Platt	"	July	29, 1761

Children of Thomas and Ruth Rockwell

Dorcas	born	Feb.	12, 1751/2
Thaddeus	"	Nov.	23, 175

Children of Jacob and Abigail Weed

Thankfull	born	April	4, 1759
Daughter	"	Mar.	12, 1761

Children of John and Hannah Rockwell

John	born	April	7, 1755
Jeremiah	"	July	19, 1756
James	"	April	12, 1758
Timothy	"	Dec.	20, 1760

Children of Nathan and Abigail St. John

Molly	born	April	20, 1759
Hannah	"	Feb.	25, 1756
Abigail	"	Mar.	27, 1754
Molly	"	Nov.	17, 1760
Nathan	"	Nov.	6, 1765

Children of John and Deborah Morehouse

Thomas	born	Feb.	21, 1759
Joseph	"	Oct.	17, 1760

Children of Daniel and Mary Wood

Susannah	born	April	20, 1748
Anne	"	Nov.	24, 1749
Martha	"	Sept.	20, 1752

Children of James and Abigail Morehouse

Abigail	born	Dec.	22, 1759
Noah	"	Nov.	12, 1760
Betty	"	June	22, 1763

Children of Thomas and Elisabeth Hauley

Ebenezer	born	Mar.	31, 1753
Thomas	"	Feb.	28, 1755
Elisha	"	Mar.	9, 1759

Children of John and Phebe Olmsted

Phebe	born	Aug.	20, 1740
John	"	May	19, 1743

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Children of John and Joanna Olmsted

Sarah	born	June	17, 1744
Stephen	"	Oct.	5, 1745
Joanna	"	Feb.	7, 1748
Darius	"	July	7, 1750

Children of Justus and Patience Olmsted

Thomas	born	Dec.	20, 1756
Joseph	"	June	30, 1758

Children of Nathan and Sarah Olmsted

James	born	Dec.	16, 1752
Sarah	"	Apr.	11, 1754
Prudence	"	Nov.	26, 1756

Children of Matthew and Deborah Keeler

Deborah	born	Nov.	5, 1752
Ruth	"	Dec.	1, 1752
Sarah	"	Sept.	23, 1756
Hannah	"	Aug.	5, 1758

Children of John and Abigail Baldwin

Abigail	born	June	13, 1752
Esther	"	Oct.	17, 1757

Children of Josiah and Mary Rockwell

Molly	born	July	27, 1750
Jabez	"	Oct.	8, 1761

Sarah, daughter of Ebenezer and Lobdell, born Aug. 5, 175

Children of Daniel and Elizabeth Olmsted

Daniel	born	Mar.	22, 1754
Roger	"	Mar.	20, 17—
Elisabeth	"	Jan.	30, 1758

Children of John and Martha Wallace

John	born	June	2, 1747
Martha	"	June	2, 1747
Rachel	"	Jan.	5, 1749
William	"	Oct.	16, 1750
Jonathan	"	Nov.	18, 1752
Samuel	"	Nov.	17, 1754
Ruth	"	Dec.	26, 1756
Jacob	"	June	1, 1759
James	"	July	8, 1762
Agness	"	Feb.	21, 1765

James, son of Bartlet and Mary Foliet, born April 8, 1761

Children of Theophilus and Anne Stebbins

John	born	Feb.	13, 1755
Thomas	"	Apr.	21, 1757
David	"	Apr.	9, 1759
James	"	Feb.	2, 1761

Children of Timothy and Elizabeth Street

Sarah	born	April	19, 1748
Betty	"	May	15, 1750
Timothy	"	May	20, 1746
Mary	"	June	10, 1752
Mary	"	July	7, 1754

David, son of David and Anne Abbott, born June 25, 1753

Children of Jonah Smith, Jr., and Anne Smith.

Philip	born	April	24, 1758
Joanna	"	May	21, 1761

Children of Jesse and Elizabeth Benedict

Elizabeth	born	June	16, 1757
Jesse	"	Dec.	15, 1758
Gamaliel	"	Nov.	9, 176

Children of Matthew and Elizabeth Benedict

Matthew	born	Oct	1759
Matthew	"	Nov.	23, 1760

Sarah, daughter of John and Sarah Bundy, born August 13, 1754

Children of Tamar, ye servant woman of Matthew Seymour

Peggy	born	Dec.	21, 1742
Elisabeth	"	Oct.	12, 1746
Dover	"	Aug.	17, 1747
Betty	"	Sept.	23, 1749
Allen	"	Nov.	23, 1751
Naomi	"	Sept.	10, 1754
Abigail	"	Mar.	17, 1761, died two days after
twins	"	Jan.	7, 1762, died three days after

Michael, son of Tamar, servant of Theophilus Stebbins, born Sept. 13, 1756

Tamar and Dinah, twins, children of Dinah, woman servant of Theophilus Stebbins, born Jan. 7, 1759

Jenny, daughter of Tamar, woman servant of Sarah Keeler, born Sept. 10, 1758, and died about a year after

Andrew, son of Tamar, servant of Sarah Keeler, born July 22, 1761

Mary, ye Daughter of Anne Cosier was born October

John, ye Son of Anne Abbott was born March 21st, 1762

Jeremiah, ye Son of Lydia Crawford was born December

Children of Matthew and Deborah Keeler

Daughter	born	Oct.	5, 1760
Matthew	"	April	10, 1762
Jonas	"	Aug.	2, 1764
Hannah	"	July	27, 1766
Dorcas	"	July	28, 1768
Lydia	"	Sept.	7, 1770
Jonah	"	June	5, 1772

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Children of Timothy and Mary Keeler

Hannah	born	Sept.	30, 1762
Jonathan	"	Dec.	27, 1765
Benjamin	"	Nov.	13, 1768

Children of Jesse and Mehetable Benedict

Elisabeth	born	June	16, 1757
Mehetable	"	Sept.	11, 1762
	"	Apr.	8, 1764
Ruth	"	Aug.	6, 1766
Jonah and Benjamin	"	Jan.	7, 1770
Thaddeus	"	Jan.	6, 1772
Lewis	"	Dec.	7, 1773
Hannah Sally	"	Jan.	4, 1779

Ebenezer, ye Son of Ebenezer and Hannah Smith, born October 3, 17

Children of Isaac and Ann Hine

Daughter	born	Jan.	14, 1758
Benjamin	"	Feb.	13, 1764
Isaac	"	Oct.	4, 1765
Olive	"	Jan.	28, 1769
Elijah	"	June	28, 1771
Watrous	"	June	14, 1775

Children of Thomas and Jane Benedict

Isaac Oliver	born	Aug.	14, 1764
James	"	Aug.	12, 1762
Sarah	"	Mar.	18, 1766
Philip Lewis	"	Sept.	4, 1767
Hannah	"	Jan.	9, 1769

Children of David Rockwell, Jr., and Mary Rockwell

Joseph	born	Oct.	4, 17
Enos	"	Oct.	16, 17
Isaac	"	Jan.	6, 17
Reuben	"	Nov.	6, 17

Children of Jacob and Mary Resseguie

Mary	born	April	17, 1747
Jacob	"	June	5, 1752
Abijah	"	Dec.	13, 1754
Alexander	"	May	24, 1759

Children of Daniel and Sarah Osburn

Josiah	born	Feb.	20, 1746
David	"	Nov.	1, 1748
Sarah	"	Feb.	6, 175
Jeremiah	"	Dec.	8,
Sarah	"	May	
Olive	"	June	4, 1759
Abigail	"	Oct.	1762

Children of Daniel and Mary Wood

Nathan	born	Nov.	24, 1759
Ruth	"	Apr.	20, 1757
Betty	"	Sept.	26, 175

Children of Eli and Abigail Northrup

Dorcas	born	June	22, 1758
Anne	"	May	25, 1760
Thaddeus	"	Feb.	27, 1763

Children of Abraham and Deborah Whitlock

Justus	born	Mar.	10, 1753
Joseph	"	Feb.	5, 1760

Children of Joseph and Grace Jackson

Stephen	born	Oct.	13, 1751
Grace	"	Jan.	12, 1754
Joseph	"	Mar.	4, 1756
Martha	"	June	2, 1759
Philip	"	Sept.	29, 1761

Children of Ezekiel and Hannah Wilson

Hannah	born	July	18, 175
Lewis	"	Jan.	24, 1760
Ruth	"	Mar.	2, 1762
Thomas Rockwell	"	Mar.	23, 1763

Children of Adam and Elizabeth Whitlock

Nathaniel	born	Mar.	10, 175
Rachel	"	Nov.	9,
Elizabeth	"	Jan.	8,
Thomas	"	Oct.	23, 1756
Sarah	"	Sept.	26, 1759
Naomi	"	Sept.	15, 1761

Jonathan and Sarah Whitlock's children

Samuel	born	Nov.	5, 1748
Abigail	"	Oct.	30, 1750
Elenor	"	Oct.	16, 1752
Hannah	"	Sept.	15, 175
Seth	"	Oct.	27, 1757
Thaddeus	"	Dec.	16, 17
Henry	"	Nov.	3, 1761

Children of William and Catherine Castle

Mary	born	Oct.	30, 1756
Elijah	"	Jan.	22, 1760
Aaron	"	Jan.	7, 1764
Sarah	"	Mar.	20, 1766
Daughter	"	Jan.	28, 1769

BIRTHS

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Children of Abel and Hannah Barnum

Hudson	born	Dec.	11, 1772
Isaac	"	Apr.	7, 1775
Israel	"	May	18, 1776
John	"	Sept.	13, 1777
Abel	"	Mar.	27, 1779
Rachel	"	Oct.	7, 1780
Eunice	"	May	12, 1782
Mary	"	Jan.	4, 1784
Sally	"		
Charity	"	Feb.	29, 1788
Betsy			

Abel, son of Tibulus and Rachel Barnum, born June 27, 1752

Susannah, daughter of Israel and Naomi Sherwood, born July 25, 1754

James, son of Aaron and Rachel Stuart, born May 8, 17

Children of Jonas Platt

Obadiah	born	May	17, 1758
Isaac	"	Apr.	12, 1760

Children of Daniel and Sarah Wilson

Hannah	born	Mar.	23, 1760
Thaddeus	"	Mar.	5, 1763
Sarah	"	June	19, 1767

Children of Ebenezer and Rebeckah Lobdell

Samuel	born	July	12, 1753
Sarah	"	Aug.	5, 1755
Susannah	"	July	9, 1758
Jared	"	Aug.	8, 1759
Josiah	"	Aug.	14, 1762

Nathan, son of Ebenezer and Eunice Lobdell, born May 6, 17

Hannah, daughter of John and Esther Benedict, born Feb. 27, 1762

Children of Nathan and Sarah Olmsted

Rachel	born	Oct.	31, 175
Lucretia	"	Sept.	11,
Clara	"	Oct.	25, 17
Timothy	"	May	27,
Betty	"	Jan.	12, 177
Priscilla	"	Mar.	11,

Children of Daniel and Jerusha Sherwood

Ruth	born	Jan.	11, 1746
Mary	"	Nov.	8, 1747
John	"	Dec.	4, 1749
Sarah	"	Aug.	4, 1751
Richard	"	Mar.	21, 1754

Children of George and Thankfull Foliet

Dorcas	born	Feb.	18, 1761
Susannah	"	Apr.	4, 1762
George	"	June	26, 1763
Lewis	"	Jan.	2, 1765
Jeremiah	"	July	17, 1766
Anna	"	Apr.	17, 1767
Reuben	"	Dec.	12, 1768

Children of James and Jemima Benedict

Jemima	born	July	25, 1749
Martha	"	June	16, 1751
Phebe	"	Aug.	14, 1753
William	"	July	14, 1755
Anne	"	July	25, 1757
Joseph	"	May	11, 1760

Children of Isaac and Naomi Sherwood

Esther	born	Nov.	17, 1761
Nathan	"	Feb.	17, 1766
Ebenezer	"	Aug.	31, 1771

Children of Josiah and Ruth Stebbins

Josiah	born	Feb.	8, 1762
Josiah	"	Feb.	6, 17
Ruth	"	Mar.	15, 1765
Isaac	"	Oct.	13, 1766
Josiah	"	Oct.	17, 1772

Children of Theophilus and Anna Stebbins

Anne	born	Dec.	12, 1762
Simon	"	Dec.	5, 1764
Abigail	"	Nov.	17, 1766
David	"	Oct.	7, 1768
Sarah	"	Apr.	16, 1771
Sarah	"	May	23, 177
Hannah	"	May	3, 1777

Children of Abraham and Jane Resseguie

Rachel	born	Apr.	11, 1752
Phebe	"	Mar.	8, 1754
Hannah	"	May	9, 1756
John	"	Apr.	2, 1758

Children of Sylvanus and Mary Starr

Samuel	born	Jan.	11, 1758
Mary	"	Sept.	14, 1760
Thomas	"	Dec.	23, 1761

Children of Thomas and Elizabeth Hauley

Talcott	born	Nov.	17, 1762
Joseph	"	Jan.	15, 1764

BIRTHS

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Children of Samuel Keeler, Jr., and Abiah Keeler

Phebe	born	Feb.	25, 1763
Timothy	"	Mar.	20, 1765
Abiah	"	Dec.	5, 17
Sarah	"	Nov.	1, 177
Hannah	"	Jan.	26, 1773

Children of Isaac and Mary Keeler

Isaac	born	Aug.	3, 1739
Josiah	"	June	10, 1741
Jacob	"	July	10, 1743
Elijah	"	July	10, 1745
Mary	"	June	3, 1747

Children of Isaac and Hannah Keeler

Hannah	born	Nov.	1, 1757
Dorothy	"	Sept.	15, 1759
Chloe	"	Mar.	21, 1761

Children of Isaac and Elisabeth Northrup

Lewis	born	Mar.	24, 1773
Isaac	"	Aug.	29, 1777

Children of Isaac and Elisabeth Northrup

Challe	born	Oct.	26, 1762
Sarah	"	Mar.	17, 1764
Ruth	"	Sept.	3, 1765
Molly	"	Feb.	3, 1768
Jonah	"	Jan.	30, 1770

Children of Elijah and Sarah Keeler

Levi	born	Apr.	4, 1758
Enos	"	Oct.	24, 1761
Elisabeth	"	Nov.	14, 176
Rachel	"	Nov.	27, 1764
Joseph	"	Dec.	27, 1766
Jonah	"	Apr.	26, 176
Martin	"	Jan.	14, 17

Children of Joseph and Joanna Stebbins

Samuel	born	Feb.	27, 1763
Nathan	"	Oct.	16, 1764
Joseph	"	Sept.	30, 1766
Joanna	"	Apr.	5, 1768
Polly	"	June	17, 1771
Isaac	"	Feb.	22, 1776
Polly	"	Nov.	26, 1778
Esther	"	Oct.	19, 1781

Children of Thomas and Mehetable Northrup

Moses	born	Jan.	17, 1764
Abijah	"	Oct.	8, 1765
Louis	"	Jan.	17, 1771

Children of Daniel and Abigail Rockwell

Daniel	born	Jan.	19, 1764
Caleb	"	Oct.	13, 1765
Ruth	"	Apr.	6, 1767
Son	"	Dec.	26, 1769, died Feb. 1, 1770
Betty	"	Nov.	21, 1774
Seymour	"	Nov.	7, 1777
Martin	"	Aug.	27, 1780

Children of Vivus and Mary Dauchy

Mary	born	Mar.	18, 1764
Jacob	"	Mar.	1766

Children of Matthew and Elisabeth Benedict

Elisabeth	born	Oct.	31, 1762
John	"	May	21, 1764
Elijah	"	Apr.	17, 1766
Anna	"	Feb.	28, 1768
Elijah	"	Apr.	8, 1770
David	"	Feb.	14, 1772

Children of Recompense Thomas, Jr., and Sarah Thomas

Joseph	born	May	10, 1751
Dinah	"	Mar.	12, 1764

Children of Jacob and Abigail Weed

Abigail	born	May	21, 1763
Thankfull	"	Apr.	4, 1759
Cate	"	Mar.	12, 1761
Daniel	"	Apr.	16, 1765
Anne	"	Nov.	15, 1766
Jacob	"	Aug.	13, 1768
Azariah	"	July	14, 1771
Eli	"	Oct.	27, 1775
Anne	"	Feb.	14, 1778

Children of Ebenezer and Ann Jones

Anne	born	Sept.	23, 1753
Sarah	"	May	21, 1758
Ellen	"	Oct.	17, 1762
Ebenezer	"	Nov.	17, 1765
Benjamin	"	July	17, 1770

Children of Hezekiah and Jameson Gilbert

John	born	Sept.	11, 1762
Rebeckah	"	Oct.	22, 176
Ithmar	"	Aug.	19, 176
Hezekiah	"	Oct.	10, 176

Ann, daughter of Jonathan and Dorcas Ingersoll, born Apr. 5, 1765

Sarah, daughter of John and Sarah Bundy, born Aug. 13, 1754

Children of John and Anna Dauchy

James	born	Feb.	12, 1765
Deborah	"	Mar.	13, 1767
Adah	"	Mar.	13, 1769
Ruth	"	Jan.	6, 1771
Jesse	"	Sept.	8, 1774
Elisabeth	"	Jan.	6, 1776
Vivus	"	May	20, 1778
Sarah	"	Aug.	15, 1780
Wallace	"	Oct.	4, 1782

Children of John and Hannah Rockwell

✓ Rachel	born		1762
Samuel	"	Oct.	28, 1764

Children of Epenetus and Elisabeth How

Miriam	born	Jan.	2, 1766
John	"	June	12, 1763
John	"	Mar.	2, 1766
William	"	Dec.	27, 1769
Betsy	"	Sept.	28, 1771
Epenetus	"	July	26, 1772
Jane	"	Jan.	25, 1774
Nancy	"	July	25, 1776
Eunice	"	July	25, 1776
Sally	"	Nov.	25, 1778
Elisabeth	"	June	15, 1781

Children of Zaccheus and Margaret Gregory

Clara	born	Jan.	21, 1766
Elizar	"	Aug.	20, 1769
Comfort	"	Jan.	1770

Children of Daniel and Mary Benedict

Joseph	born	Aug.	19, 1765
Agness	"	Aug.	30, 1767
Elisabeth	"	Apr.	14, 1770

Children of Jeremiah and Hannah Keeler

Hannah	born	July	6, 1765
Jeremiah	"	Dec.	6, 1766

Children of Josiah and Rebecka Northrup

Sarah	born	Jan.	5, 1780
Polly	"	Sept.	12, 1781
Nancy	"	Aug.	29, 1783
Phillip	"	Oct.	9, 1785
Cyrus	"	Mar.	17, 1788
Lucy	"	Jan.	17, 1797

Isaac, son of Isaac and Elisabeth Nash, born July 14, 1766

Children of John and Martha Thomas

James	born	Jan.	4, 1768
Elisabeth	"	Apr.	9, 1769
Sarah	"	July	18, 1771
Samuel	"	Jan.	18, 1774
John	"	May	30, 1777
Martha	"	July	19, 1779
Stephen	"	June	3, 1781

Children of Jonathan and Abigail Osborn

Samuel	born	Jan.	20, 1765
Joseph	"	Feb.	27, 1767

Children of Ezekiel and Lydia Olmsted

Lydia	born	Oct.	3, 1751
Jonathan	"	Dec.	23, 175
Hannah	"	May	6, 175
Sarah	"	May	4, 176
Mary	"	Sept.	19, 176
Chloe	"	Mar.	17, 176
Ketchum	"	May	29, 176
Abigail	"	Oct.	176

Molly, daughter of John and Mary Wilson, born Jan. 3, 1760

Abraham, son of Rachel Wallace, daughter of John Wallace, born Feb. 20, 1769

Deborah, daughter of Thomas and Adah Smith, born Dec. 11, 17

Prudence, daughter of Benjamin and Patience Hayt, born Jan. 22, 1767

Ruth, daughter of Caleb and Ruth Smith, born July 10, 1768

Ward, son of Josiah and Phebe Gilbert, born Feb. 9, 1770

Isaiah, son of Isaiah and Sarah Birchard, born July 22, 1762

Jean, daughter of William and Sarah Forrester, born Nov. 17

Children of John and Martha Wallace

Epenetus	born	Nov.	18, 1766
Mary	"	Aug.	28, 1769

Children of Stephen and Elisabeth Abbott

Elisabeth	born	Oct.	27, 1763
Annis,	"	Aug.	25, 1768

Children of Philip Burr and Molly Bradley

Molly	born	Sept.	3, 1766
Jabez Burr	"	Feb.	18, 1768
Philip	"	Sept.	17, 1770
Ruth	"	Oct.	16, 1771
Esther	"	May	7, 1773
Betsy	"	Feb.	12, 1775
Sally	"	July	11, 1780
Jesse S.	"	Aug.	17, 1782

Children of Philip and Mary Dauchy

Rachel	born	June	9, 1765
Philip	"	Feb.	26, 1766, died about four days old
Eunice	"	Nov.	2, 1768
Hannah	"	Feb.	21, 1772

Children of Abraham and Rhoda Nash

Abigail	born	Jan.	30, 1739
Abraham	"	Nov.	7, 1740
Phebe	"	Nov.	16, 1742
Isaac	"	Nov.	13, 1744
John	"	Apr.	13, 1747
Samuel	"	Mar.	13, 1749
Jacob	"	Aug.	30, 1751
Rhoda	"	Oct.	10, 1753
Ezra	"	Feb.	25, 1758
Jonathan	"	Apr.	14, 1760
Riah	"	Aug.	3, 1763

Children of David and Hannah Scott

Thomas	born	Feb.	14, 1763
Hannah	"	Apr.	25, 17
Rane	"	Jan.	3, 1768
Jesse	"	Feb.	10, 1770
Ame	"	May	10, 1772
Thaddeus	"	Sept.	3, 1775
Gould	"	June	28, 1778

Children of Josiah and Mary Rockwell

Jabez	born	Oct.	8, 1761
Millicent	"	Aug.	17, 1762
Josiah	"	Aug.	28, 1765
Hannah	"	June	9, 1768
Phebe	"	Aug.	6, 1770
Jared	"	Mar.	7, 1773

Children of Josiah and Anna Foster

Thomas	born	Sept.	25, 1758
Mary	"	May	30, 1764
Isaac	"	June	12, 1766

Children of John and Huldah Watrous

Nabbe	born	Apr.	17, 177
James	"	Feb.	23, 1774
Lucy	"	Mar.	26, 1776
Martha	"	Apr.	26, 1778
John	"	July	30, 1783
Eleazer	"	Nov.	13, 1786

Children of Elijah and Elizabeth Smith

Phebe	born	Feb.	25, 1762
Isaiah	"	June	14, 1764
Elnathan	"	April	2, 1766

Children of John and Abigail Richards

Sarah	born	Apr.	18, 1767
John	"	Jan.	29, 1769
Jara	"	Mar.	12, 1771
Ambe	"	Sept.	25, 1772
Sam	"	Nov.	18, 1774

Children of Abner and Anne Wilson

Lemira	born	Aug.	10, 1769
Thomas	"	Feb.	17, 1772
Currents	"	Mar.	17, 1774
Currents Anne	"	Apr.	17, 1781
Ammon	"	May	27, 1776
Sally	"	Mar.	4, 1783
Betty	"	Oct.	3, 1786
Ezra	"	Nov.	29, 1789
Abner	"	Mar.	11, 1793

Children of Daniel Smith, Jr., and Mary Smith

Daniel	born	Jan.	4, 17
Azer	"	Oct.	9, 176
Dolly	"	Sept.	17, 176
Sarah	"	Apr.	1777
Noah	"	Mar.	12, 1774
Mary	"	Mar.	17, 1782
Samuel	"	July	11, 1784

Children of Thomas and Betty St. John

Samuel	born	Jan.	3, 1763
Jared	"	Dec.	3, 1765
Susannah	"	June	25, 1767
Hannah	"	Aug.	6, 1769
Wallace	"	Mar.	4, 1772
Oliver	"	Apr.	7, 1775
Rachel	"	Oct.	27, 1780

Children of Daniel and Abigail Brown

Bostwick	born	Oct.	17, 1763
Parneil	"	July	1, 1765
Nabbe	"	Dec.	5, 1766
Elisabeth	"	Feb.	26, 1769
Daniel	"	Mar.	11, 1770
Martha	"	Aug.	24, 1773

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Children of David and Abigail Olmsted

David	born	May	21, 1770
Millicent	"	Aug.	29, 1772
Sarah	"	July	19, 1774
George	"	Apr.	29, 1777
Billey	"	June	29, 1778
Charles	"	Aug.	4, 1787
Abigail	"	Nov.	16, 1792
Polly	"	Mar.	14, 1794

Children of John and Mary Lee

Elias	born	June	18, 1765
Abigail	"	Oct.	27, 1766
Chloe	"	May	5, 1769
Ruth	"	Jan.	27, 1771
Noah	"	Apr.	3, 1773
Joel	"	Apr.	12, 1776
William	"	July	14, 1778

Children of Zophar and Jane Weeks

Stephen	born	Sept.	8, 1769
Eli	"	June	2, 1771
David	"	Feb.	18, 1773
Jere	"	Feb.	6, 1775
Annis	"	Mar.	11, 1777

Children of Thaddeus and Mehetabel Rockwell

Thaddeus	born	Feb.	20, 1771
Sarah	"	Oct.	5, 1772
Thomas	"	Nov.	28, 1774
Cynthia	"	Aug.	20, 1776
Clarissa	"	Aug.	16, 1779
Cynthia	"	July	10, 1781
Betsy	"	Oct.	15, 1784
Ruth	"	Aug.	29, 1786

Children of Rev. Samuel and Mrs. Hannah Camp

Samuel Abiel	born		
Mary	"	Mar.	8, 1771
Anne	"	Mar.	8, 1775
Philander	"	Sept.	15, 1779
Sarah	"	Jan.	15, 1732

Children of Daniel and Abigail Worden

Sarah	born	Feb.	16, 17
Samuel	"	Sept.	12, 176
Benajah	"	Sept.	17, 176

Children of Henry and Ruth Whitney

Clarrasie	born	June	16, 1771
Clarrasie	"	July	5, 1785
Sally	"	Sept.	24, 1786
Betsy Clarissa	"	May	10, 1789

Children of Samuel and Martha Olmsted

Thaddeus	born	June	30, 1769
Isaac	"	Jan.	17, 1771
Jonathan	"	Dec.	7, 1772
Hannah	"	Feb.	10, 1776
Ebenezer Rockwell	"	Oct.	29, 1775
Dorcas	"	May	26, 1779
Sarah	"	Feb.	10, 1781
Seth	"	Apr.	18, 1783
Esther	"	June	11, 1787
Katy	"	Mar.	11, 1790
Jonathan	"	Dec.	25, 1793

Children of Daniel and Abigail St. John

Noah	born	Apr.	2, 1766
John	"	Aug.	17, 1777
Stephen	"	Feb.	7, 1777

Children of James and Sarah Resseguie

Lyman	born	Oct.	29, 1766
Ellen	"	Aug.	5, 1767
Seth	"	May	19, 1770
Isaac	"	Oct.	7, 1772

Children of John and Martha Jackson

Billy	born	Sept.	17, 1782
Anne	"	Dec.	1, 1782

Children of John and Phebe Jones

Job	born	Feb.	17, 1764
Phebe	"	Aug.	13, 1766
Daniel	"	Feb.	10, 1770
Timothy	"	Jan.	13, 1773
Sarah	"	Aug.	30, 1774
Deborah	"	Mar.	27, 1776

Children of John and Sarah Jones

Cheba	born	July	30, 1778
Timothy	"	Dec.	28, 1780

Children of John and Rebecka Jones

Betsy	born	Oct.	19, 1785
Mary	"	Feb.	15, 1790

Children of Samuel and Anne Starr

Peter	born	Sept.	3, 1751
Platt	"	July	29, 1761
Hannah	"	June	29, 1763
Eunice	"	Aug.	5, 1765
Mary	"	Aug.	5, 1767
Olive	"	July	11, 1769
Samuel	"	Apr.	3, 1771

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Children of Daniel and Margaret Olmsted

Daniel	born	June	28, 1766
Jemima	"	May	1, 1770
Thirza	"	Apr.	3, 1777

Children of Joshua and Lydia Burt

Jeremiah	born	Mar.	6, 1777
Hackaliah	"	May	3, 1773
Belden	"	May	11, 1775
Joshua	"	Mar.	24, 1777
John	"	May	2, 1781

Children of Daniel and Joanna Olmsted

Deborah	born	Aug.	25, 1771
John	"	Sept.	11, 1773
Roger	"	May	18, 1776
Dolly	"	Aug.	12, 1778
Sookey	"	Oct.	25, 1780
Stephen	"	May	12, 1783
Harvey	"	Sept.	1, 1785
Laura	"	Mar.	18, 1788

Children of Claudius and Elisabeth Smith

Josiah	born	Mar.	24, 1785
Sally	"	Aug.	12, 1787
Jonah	"	Mar.	16, 1789
Elisabeth	"	Feb.	24, 1791
Lucy	"	July	7, 1793
Charles and Chauncey	"	Aug.	7, 1795

Children of James and Sarah Resseguie

Lyman	born	Oct.	29, 1766
Ellin	"	Aug.	5, 1767
Seth	"	May	19, 1770
Isaac	"	Oct.	7, 1772

Children of Peter and Sarah Waddy

Samuel	born	Feb.	27, 1781
Peter	"	Oct.	28, 1783
William	"	Aug.	23, 1784
Alexandra	"	Dec.	3, 1786
Ira	"	Feb.	8, 1790

Children of John and Naomi Nichols

John	born	Aug.	13, 1770
Stephen	"	July	9, 1772
William	"	May	17, 1774
Billy	"	Jan.	11, 1776
Joseph	"	Jan.	15, 1778

Children of Widow Sarah Smith (late wife of James Smith, son of Gideon)

Major and Huldah (twins) born Feb. 19, 1786

James, son of Gideon Smith, born March 6, 1746

Children of James and Sarah Smith

Sarah	born	July	11, 1768
Joel	"	June	21, 1770
Huldah	"	July	8, 1772
Ruth	"	July	5, 1774
Hannah	"	Dec.	17, 1776
Betsy	"	Mar.	31, 1779

Children of John and Rebeckah Smith

Rebeckah	born	Feb.	26, 17
Thomas	"	Apr.	20, 177
John	"	Apr.	7, 1773
Ezra	"	Dec.	17, 1774
Sarah	"	May	20, 1778

Children of Job and Elisabeth Smith

William	born	Nov.	20, 1771
Sarah	"	June	20, 1773
Elizabeth	"	Oct.	12, 1775
Stephen	"	Jan.	12, 1780
Charles	"	Jan.	17, 1782

Children of Ezekiel and Mary Smith

Abijah	born	Oct.	25, 1772
Rachel	"	Jan.	12, 1776
Levi	"	July	26, 1780
Huldah	"	Dec.	29, 1782
Noah	"	Sept.	11, 1775

Children of Abraham and Sarah Rockwell

Runa	born	Feb.	11, 1773
Lucy	"	May	6, 1783

Children of Solomon and Priscilla Perry

Sandus	born	July	22, 1762
David	"	May	5, 1768
Major Lewis	"	Apr.	21, 1770

Children of Benjamin and Sarah Sherwood

Hannah	born	Jan.	15, 177
Benjamin	"	Nov.	6, 177
Sarah	"	Feb.	18, 177
Benjamin	"	Apr.	20, 177
Phebe	"	Oct.	6, 177
Timothy	"	Sept.	5, 1780
Benjamin	"	July	5, 178
John	"	Nov.	5, 1784
William	"	Sept.	23, 1786
Samuel	"	July	25, 1788
Lewis	"	Oct.	16, 1790
Lucy	"	Feb.	3, 1793
Clarissa	"	Apr.	25, 1795

Children of Nehemiah and Elenor Keeler

Mehetibel	born	Oct.	1772
Abraham	"	July	20, 1777
Ruth	"	Mar.	1780
Abiel	"	Mar.	12, 1784
Jared Olmsted born July 1, 1753			
Hannah Betts born May 10, 1755			

Children of Samuel and Martha Olmsted

Patty	born	Dec.	7, 1769
Lewis	"	Nov.	20, 1771
Phebe	"	Oct.	26, 1772
Gould	"	Feb.	7, 1775
Thomas	"	Oct.	7, 1777
Samuel	"	Feb.	7, 1783
Anne	"	June	29, 1787

Children of Jared and Hannah Olmsted

Lewis	born	Mar.	19, 1774
Nathan	"	Apr.	1, 1776
Jones	"	Jan.	31, 1778
Hannah	"	Mar.	3, 1780
Betsy	"	Mar.	3, 1782
Sally	"	May	21, 1784
Polly	"	May	3, 1786
Rachel	"	Mar.	18, 1788
Lucy	"	Apr.	24, 1790
Jared	"	Feb.	14, 1793
Hiram	"	May	28, 1795

Children of Azor and Mary Hurlbut

Sarah	born	Sept.	11, 1766
Daniel	"	June	28, 1769
Azor	"	Aug.	3, 1771
Uriah	"	Aug.	21, 1773

Children of David and Mary St. John

Molly	born	Feb.	17, 1761
Sarah	"	Jan.	7, 1766
Ruth	"	May	11, 1769
Ann	"	Feb.	20, 1771
Esther	"	Oct.	20, 1773
David	"	Nov.	7, 1777

Ruth, daughter of Nathan and Susannah Wood, born March 9, 1776

Children of Timothy and Esther Keeler

Lewis	born	Apr.	17, 1772	
Walter	"	Mar.	11, 1774,	died Sept. 23, 1776
Esther	"	Aug.	28, 1775	
Walter	"	Dec.	31, 1777	
Mary	"	Feb.	19, 1781	
Sarah	"	Apr.	27, 1783	
William	"	June	20, 1785	
Anne	"	Nov.	19, 1787	

Children of Daniel and Elisabeth Olmsted

Daniel	born	Mar.	22, 1751	
Roger	"	Mar.	20, 1756	
Elisabeth	"	Jan.	30, 1758	
Rebeckah	"	Sept.	22, 1761	
Adah	"	Nov.	27, 1763	
Sarah	"	Mar.	17, 1766	
Josiah	"	Mar.	21, 1768	
Hepzibah	"	June	7, 1770	
Lewis	"	July	27, 1772	
Eunice	"	Dec.	1, 1773	
Molly	"	Dec.	26, 1777	

Children of Hezekiah and Sarah Olmsted

Nancy	born	Mar.	29, 1777	
Cotter	"	July	29, 1775	
Benjamin Goodrich	"	Nov.	30, 1777	
Sally	"	Nov.	26, 1779	

Children of Justus Olmsted, Jr., and Betty Olmsted

Mary	born	June	29, 1778	
Betsy	"	Oct.	30, 1779	
Ruhamah	"	Apr.	4, 1777	
Lewis Benedict	"	Apr.	11, 1777	

Children of Uzziel and Rachel Hyatt

Sara	born	Apr.	11, 1772	
Olive	"	July	14, 1775	
Esther	"	Aug.	10, 1777	
William	"	May	4, 1780	
Rachel	"	June	19, 1783	

Children of Benjamin and Hannah Smith

Sally	born	Oct.	28, 1774	
Lucy	"	Sept.	16, 1776	
Betsy	"	Apr.	7, 1780	

Children of James and Betty McCausey

Jerusha	born	Oct.	18, 1768	
David	"	July	15, 1770	
Rachel	"	July	8, 1772	
Jenny	"	May	23, 1777	
Elisabeth	"	Aug.	10, 1779	

Children of Daniel and Lois Dauchy

Lois	born	June	9, 1779
Hannah	"	July	15, 1781
Thomas	"	July	13, 1784
Calvin	"	Mar.	10, 1787
Luther	"	Nov.	17, 1790
Polly	"	Oct.	3, 1793
Clara	"	Oct.	13, 1795
Amy	"	Feb.	19, 1798

Children of Timothy and Desire Foster

James Sears	born	Aug.	11, 1774
Arnold Washington	"	Mar.	19, 1776
Nathaniel	"	Sept.	21, 1778
Sally	"	May	22, 1781
Abigail	"	Mar.	20, 1785

Children of Jeremiah and Rachel Mead

Rachel	born	Mar.	16, 1780
Polly	"	Aug.	13, 1781
Lewis	"	June	9, 1785
Hepsy	"	Jan.	23, 1787
Jeremiah	"	Dec.	19, 1788
Matthew	"	Mar.	29, 1791
Seth	"	Feb.	1, 1792
Samuel	"	Apr.	17, 1795
Betty	"	Sept.	22, 1799
Harvey	"	Apr.	11, 1799
Whitney	"	July	31, 1801

Children of Edward and Sarah Tylee

James	born	Feb.	16, 1780
William	"	Nov.	21, 1781

Elisabeth, daughter of Abijah and Miriam Olmsted, born Mar. 29, 1785

Children of Thaddeus and Mary Sturgis

Strong	born	Aug.	6, 1771
William	"	Apr.	29, 1775
Polly	"	Mar.	4, 1781
Amelia	"	June	24, 1783
Sally	"	July	9, 1785

Children of Nathan F. and Hannah Kellogg

Isaac	born	Jan.	12, 1780
Shelomith	"	Dec.	15, 1782
Hannah	"	Mar.	3, 1785
Lewis	"	Aug.	21, 1787
Nathan	"	Dec.	10, 1789
Joel	"	July	2, 1792

Jeremiah, son of John and Esther Smith, born Aug. 21, 1782

Children of James and Abigail Rockwell

Dorcas	born	Apr.	19, 1770
Polly	"	Feb.	25, 1772
Anne	"	Mar.	21, 1774
Gould	"	May	21, 1776
William	"	Dec.	17, 1778
Lucinda	"	Feb.	5, 1782
Abigail	"	Apr.	21, 1785
Millicent	"	June	29, 1789
Polly	"	Dec.	5, 1794

Children of Newton and Mary Hine

Sally	born	Aug.	10, 1782
Betsy	"	June	20, 1785
Jared	"	Apr.	1, 1787
Charles	"	Feb.	25, 1789
Charles	"	Oct.	16, 1792

Children of Benjamin and Eunice Keeler

Sally	born	Nov.	25, 1794
Benjamin	"	Nov.	2, 1796
David	"	Mar.	5, 1799
Lucy	"	Sept.	20, 1801

William, son of Jacob Smith, Jr., and Sarah, born Aug. 2, 1752

Children of Uriah and Sarah Marvin

James	born	Mar.	28, 1766
Huldah	"	Aug.	12, 1770
John Scott	"	Dec.	26, 1773
Esther	"	June	4, 1776
Nathaniel	"	May	9, 1778
Betsy	"	Mar.	17, 1785

Children of Abraham and Susannah Pulling

David	born	Aug.	26, 1779
Elias	"	Sept.	2, 1781
William	"	Nov.	25, 1783

Children of Abraham and Esther Pullen

Isaiah	born	July	1, 1788
Abel	"	May	13, 1790

Children of Abraham and Mercy Pullen

Samuel	born	May	17, 1794
Abraham	"	Sept.	24, 1795
Mercy	"	Mar.	27, 1780
Matthew	"	Sept.	7, 180

Children of Silas and Hannah Rockwell

Lewis	born	June	17, 1782
Chloe	"	Apr.	2, 1784
Eunice	"	Apr.	7, 1786

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Children of Jeremiah and Elizabeth Dauchy

Luther	born	Jan.	11, 1781
Lucy	"	Dec.	12, 1782

Children of Michael and Abigail Warren

David	"	Nov.	14, 1774
Hannah	"	Aug.	10, 1776
Abigail	"	Aug.	7, 1778
Isaac	"	Oct.	31, 1780
Martha	"	July	19, 1783

Children of John and Sebbel Morris

Newton	born	Jan.	13, 1752
Elisabeth	"	Oct.	9, 1754
Sebbel	"	Nov.	13, 1756
Sarah	"	Sept.	20, 1758
Eunice	"	Mar.	18, 1760
Hiel	"	Sept.	30, 1762
David	"	Sept.	22, 1764
Hannah	"	Oct.	28, 1766
Benjamin	"	Jan.	16, 1774

Children of Nathan and James Smith

Polly	born	Sept.	27, 1778
Abigail	"	May	7, 1781
Anne	"	Aug.	1, 1783
Sally	"	Apr.	5, 1786
Nathan	"	Nov.	11, 1788

Children of Nathan and Martha Beers

Martha	born	Mar.	11, 1761
Hannah	"	June	27, 1763
Jabez	"	Jan.	22, 1765
Daniel	"	Feb.	22, 1767
Samuel	"	Mar.	3, 1768
Sueky	"	Aug.	29, 1771
Sabra	"	Aug.	29, 1773
Tary	"	Sept.	22, 1775
Elisabeth	"		1779
Jesse	"		1781

Children of Noah and Sarah Starr

Sarah	born	Jan.	25, 1774
Keeler	"	Nov.	18, 1776
Anne	"	Dec.	5, 1778
Samuel	"	Aug.	24, 1780
Noah	"	June	22, 1782

Polly, daughter of Phineas and Sarah Doolittle, born April 10, 1783

Children of James and Abiah Northrup

Hannah	born	Sept.	3, 1774
Samuel	"	Aug.	9, 1776
Emila	"	Dec.	3, 1779
James	"	July	14, 1781
Eunice and Amos (Twins)	"	Oct.	14, 1784
Ezra	"	Mar.	10, 1787
Elias	"	May	18, 1789
Russell	"	June	15, 1791

Children of Abijah and Lydia Rockwell

Deborah	born		7, 1775
Obil	"	Dec.	21, 1776, died 1871
Sarah	"	Aug.	1, 1780
Zerah	"	Aug.	1, 1786

Children of Hezekiah Smith, Jr., and Abigail Smith

James	born	Jan.	14, 1777
Nancy	"	Jan.	26, 1781
Adah	"	Mar.	2, 1783
Uriah	"	Dec.	22, 1784
Noah	"	Feb.	11, 1787
Parmenas	"	Jan.	21, 1789
Betsy	"	July	29, 1791
Isaac	"	Dec.	17, 1793
Jeremiah	"	Feb.	6, 1796

Children of Benjamin and Hannah Smith

Sally	born	Oct.	21, 1774
Lucy	"	Sept.	16, 1776
Betsy	"	Apr.	9, 1780
Samuel	"	Jan.	20, 1782
Benjamin Stebbins	"	June	5, 1784
Hannah	"	Mar.	21, 1788
Jesse	"	Nov.	3, 1789

Children of Levi and Dorcas Keeler

Sally	born	June	7, 1782
Docia	"	Feb.	4, 1783
Jeremiah	"	Aug.	7, 1786
Elijah	"	Aug.	31, 1788
Thomas	"		
Joseph	"	Apr.	17, 1794

Children of Daniel Smith, 3rd and Rachel Smith

Major	born	Oct.	14, 1775
Nehemiah	"	Feb.	13, 1777
Edmond	"	Mar.	22, 1779
Polly	"	Feb.	13, 1781
Nancy	"	Jan.	22, 1783

Grove, son of Daniel and Esther Smith, born May 30, 1796

Children of Reuben and Rebeckah Sherwood

Sarah Graves	"	Nov.	4, 1778
James	"	Feb.	10, 1781
Anne	"	Feb.	9, 1783

Children of John and Pat Keeler

Silas	born	Feb.	26, 177
Gamaliel	"	Dec.	13, 177
Sarah	"	Nov.	27, 178
Caleb	"	Apr.	18, 1783
Abigail	"	July	5, 1785
Laurania	"	Aug.	15, 1787
Anna	"	Feb.	18, 1790
Lewis	"	Feb.	18, 1792
Asa	"	May	13, 1795

Children of Cragg and Sebbel Kelly

John	born	Jan.	24, 1781
Catharine	"	Aug.	11, 1782
Elisha	"	Oct.	9, 1783

Davis, son of Robert and Rachel Edmond, born May 15, 1787

Children of Joel and Sarah Sturgis

Samuel	born	May	9, 1784
Abigail	"	Mar.	21, 1787
Elnathan Joel	"	Nov.	28, 1788

Lemira, daughter of Zadoc and Abigail Sherwood, born May 22, 1784

Children of Abraham and Abigail Pulling

Beers	born	Nov.	7, 1763
Sarah	"	July	7, 1766

Betty, daughter of Daniel and Elisabeth Jackson, born Sept. 22, 1784

Children of Joseph and Susanah Olmsted

Sally	born	Feb.	7, 1783
Huldah	"	Apr.	21, 1784

Children of Benjamin and Elizabeth Stebbins

Elisabeth	born	Aug.	10, 174
Benjamin	"	July	14, 174
Hannah	"	Apr.	12, 175
Ebenezer	"	Nov.	30, 1754
Sarah	"	Dec.	29, 1760

Children of Ezra and Hannah Mead

Lewis	born	Aug.	2, 1797
Jesse	"	May	16, 1780
Betsy	"	May	10, 1783
Walter	"	May	8, 1786
Henry	"	June	21, 1789
Polly	"	Oct.	10, 1791
Harry	"	Oct.	17, 1796
Polly	"	Feb.	16, 1800

Children of Daniel and Sarah Coley

Sarah	born	Apr.	30, 1765
Rebeckah	"	Jan.	17, 1768
Eunice	"	Nov.	6, 1772

Laura, daughter of James and Almira Dole, born Mar. 17, 1785

Children of Robert Stiles Edmond and Polly Lee, married Mar. 31, 1790

Laura	born	Dec.	30, 1790
Daniel Lee	"	Oct.	16, 1792

Children of James Scott, 2nd, and Lucretia Olmsted

Sally	born	Mar.	2, 1783
David	"	Mar.	20, 1785
Nathan	"	Dec.	19, 1787
Hezekiah	"	Dec.	25, 1789
James (Scott) 3rd	"	Apr.	2, 1792
Smith	"	Nov.	1, 1794
Timothy Olmsted	"	Jan.	12, 1797
Lucretia	"	Jan.	15, 1801
Daniel Gould	"	Apr.	13, 1803

Children of Samuel and Ruth Stebbins

John	born	Feb.	1, 1783
Betsy	"	Jan.	16, 1785
William	"	Oct.	24, 1786
Ruth	"	Sept.	16, 1789
Joanna	"	Dec.	24, 1793
Samuel	"	July	5, 1796
Sally	"	July	26, 1798
Cecilla	"	July	6, 1802
Mary Emma	"	Aug.	21, 1805

Children of Jonathan and Sarah Whitlock

Samuel	born	Nov.	1, 1748
Abigail	"	Oct.	30, 1750
Ellinor	"	Sept.	17, 1752
Hannah	"	Oct.	17, 1754
Seth	"	Sept.	12, 1757
Thaddeus	"	Dec.	16, 1759
Henry	"	Nov.	3, 1761
Sarah	"	Dec.	17, 1763
Dorcas	"	Nov.	4, 1765
Huldah	"	Sept.	27, 1767
Ruth	"	July	4, 1769

BIRTHS

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Children of Abraham and Sarah Nash

Daniel	born	Nov.	24, 1763
Sarah	"	May	5, 1766
Jared	"	Aug.	10, 1769
Phebe	"	Feb.	9, 1771
Samuel	"	Mar.	12, 1778
Abraham	"	June	10, 1780
Biah	"	Apr.	21, 1782
Abraham 2nd	"	Nov.	13, 1783

Children of Justus and Patience Olmsted

Justus	born	June	20, 1753
Thomas	"	Sept.	20, 1755
Joseph	"	June	30, 1758
Abigail	"	July	12, 1760
Molly	"	Oct.	1, 1763
Phebe	"	July	21, 1769
Samuel	"	Feb.	8, 1767
Hannah	"	Nov.	22, 1772

Ebenezer and Benjamin

(Twins) " Oct. 23, 1776

Sarah, daughter of William and Sarah Rockwell, born Dec. 29, 1785

Harvey, son of Samuel and Phebe Worden, born Mar. 30, 1786

Children of John and Sarah Barlow

John	born	July	13, 1769
Jabez	"	July	16, 1771
Mansfield	"	Aug.	17, 1773
Samuel Whitney	"	June	22, 1775
Abigail	"	Aug.	13, 1778
Nehemiah	"	Dec.	23, 1781
Elisabeth	"	Oct.	23, 1783

Children of Thaddeus and Ruth Keeler

Thaddeus	born	July	8, 1785
Hervey	"	Nov.	28, 1787
Ruth	"	Aug.	19, 1788
Ira	"	July	1, 1790
Betsy	"	Mar.	14, 1792
Amos	"	Jan.	15, 1794
Solomon Close	"	Oct.	26, 1796

Children of Samuel and Chloe Saintjohn

Thomas	born	Sept.	30, 1785
Lucinda	"	June	4, 1788
Zina	"	Apr.	30, 1789
Sarah Benedict	"	June	18, 1791
Zadock	"	June	22, 1793
Betty	"	Sept.	10, 1795
Olive	"	Feb.	8, 1798
James	"	Apr.	4, 1800
Timothy Weed	"	Mar.	23, 1802

Children of Joshua and Anne King

Katy	born	Sept.	14, 1785
Fanny	"	Nov.	15, 1787
Keziah	"	Mar.	11, 1790
John Francis	"	June	30, 1792
Rufus	"	Nov.	10, 1795
Anne Maria	"	May	10, 1797
Charles Clark	"	July	1, 1799
Joshua Ingersoll	"	Aug.	11, 1801

Children of Jeremiah and Lydia Smith

Elisabeth	born	Feb.	28, 1777, died Sept. 16, 1779
Elisabeth (2nd)	"	Nov.	3, 1780, died Jan. 7, 1781
Phebe	"	June	21, 1782
John	"	May	16, 1785
Jeremiah	"	July	4, 1787, died Aug. 25, 1787
Sarah and Cynthia (Twins)	"	May	25, 1789

Children of Matthew and Ruth Keeler

Deborah	born	July	31, 1786, died Oct. 9, 1788
Matthew	"	Dec.	9, 1787
Deborah 2nd	"	Mar.	20, 1789
Matilda	"	May	7, 1792
Sally	"	Nov.	22, 1794
Elisabeth	"	Feb.	19, 1797

Arthur Forrester was born Apr. 19, 1757

Jemima, his wife, was born Sept 24, 1757

Their children

James	born	May	31, 1778
Frederick	"	July	10, 1780
Lot	"	Feb.	12, 1782
Arthur	"	Aug.	7, 1784

Children of Abraham Pulling and Susanna Smith

Susanna born Mar. 28, 1786

Child of Abraham Pulling and Esther Hyatt

Josiah born July 1, 1788

Timothy Weed and Sarah Silsbee married Dec. 11, 1777

Their children

Timothy	born	May	22, 1778
Sarah	"	Oct.	4, 1780
Elijah	"	Apr.	18, 1782
Polly	"	July	1, 1784
Joseph Smith	"	Jan.	2, 1787
Lydia	"	Dec.	13, 1788
Rua	"	Jan.	28, 1791
Bartholomew	"	Mar.	6, 1793
Silsbee (a son)	"	Mar.	29, 1797

Children of Reverend Samuel Goodrich and his wife Elisabeth, married
July 29, 1784

Sally	born	Aug.	7, 1785 (at Saybrook)
Betsy	"	Apr.	26, 1787
Abigail	"	Nov.	29, 1788
Charles Augustus	"	Aug.	19, 1790
Katherine	"	Dec.	2, 1791
Samuel G.	"	Aug.	19, 1793
Elihu Chauncey	"	Nov.	18, 1795

Children of Thomas Dowse and Mary

Stephen	born	Dec.	19, 1777
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William Lee and Susanna Wood, married Mar. 31, 1772
Children

Eben	born	Aug.	31, 1773
Phebe	"	July	20, 1776
Betty	"	June	1778
Esther	"	Mar.	1782
Riah	"	Sept.	20, 1785

Jabez Keeler and Sarah Benedict were married April 20, 1777
Their children

Esther	born	Nov.	16, 1777
David	"	Oct.	18, 1779
Martin	"	July	2, 1781
John	"	Apr.	14, 1783
Sarah	"	Feb.	10, 1785
Abijah	"	Apr.	7, 1787
Joseph	"	Dec.	27, 1788
Jabez	"	Mar.	1, 1791
Silas	"	Apr.	11, 1793

James Bradley married Olive Bennit March, 1762
Their Children

Samuel	born	Mar.	26, 1763
Abigail	"	Mar.	28, 1765
James	"	Apr.	2, 1768
Ezekiel	"	Feb.	26, 1770
Widing	"	Sept.	16, 1772
Abiah	"	May	22, 1775
Howard	"	June	8, 1777
2 infants	"	Aug.	12, 1781 (died)
Lewis	"	Aug.	15, 1782
James Bradley	"	July	4, 1784

John, son of Sarah Sherwood, was born May 4, 1782

Children of George and Lydia Berry

Mary	"	May	25, 1786
Nancy	"	Feb.	5, 1788
Elisabeth	"	Oct.	5, 1790
John	"	Sept.	7, 1792
William	"	June	23, 1794
George	"	Apr.	29, 1796
Sally	"	Apr.	27, 1798
James	"	Aug.	27, 1800
Almira	"	Sept.	6, 1802

Children of John Keeler and Phebe Hoyt (Married Sept. 17, 1767)

John Rue	born	Feb.	3, 1769, died Oct. 22, 1775
Daniel	"	Sept.	19, 1770
Moses	"	Feb.	27, 1773
Ezra	"	Nov.	13, 1774
Prua	"	Oct.	15, 1776
Abner	"	Dec.	30, 1778
Phebe	"	May	30, 1781
Polly	"	Feb.	22, 1784
John Rue 2nd	"	Aug.	5, 1786, died July 29, 1790
Rachel	"	Sept.	11, 1789

James Livesay born Oct. 1, 1750, married Mary Greeno, Sept. 16, 1773

Said Mary was born March 16, 1754

Their Children

Aaron	born	July	9, 1774
Richard	"	Nov.	7, 1776
John	"	June	24, 1779
Sarah	"	Mar.	16, 1782
James	"	Aug.	3, 1784
David	"	Dec.	25, 1785
Billy	"	Feb.	4, 1792
Polly	"	May	14, 1794

Eliphalet Brush married Hannah Hamilton, Jan. 13, 1773

Their Children

Eliphalet	born	Mar.	21, 1774
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Hannah, wife of Eliphalet Brush, died April 3, 1774

Eliphalet Brush married Abigail Dunning Nov. 11, 1777

Their Children

Hannah	born	Mar.	13, 1779
Abigail	"	Apr.	17, 1780
Ardil (son)	"	Aug.	26, 1781
Alma	"	June	21, 1783
Eli	"	July	24, 1785
Oliver B.	"	Dec.	9, 1787

Abigail, second wife of Eliphalet Brush, died May 11, 1791

Eliphalet Brush married Widow Eunice Lee, January 8, 1792

Their Children

Eunice	born	April	5, 1793
Arza	"	Dec.	5, 1794
Hull	"	Jan.	30, 1797
Polly	"	Dec.	31, 1798
Abner	"	Apr.	28, 1801

Jacob Dauchy married Lois Bennit May 3, 1789

Their Children

David	born	July	18, 1790
Charles	born	Sept.	27, 1791
Walter	"	Dec.	31, 1792
Josiah	"	Mar.	17, 1794
Philip	"	Dec.	20, 1795
Polly Sanford	"	Nov.	20, 1797
Jacob	"	Mar.	21, 1799
Keeler	"	Jan.	8, 1801
Rachel	"	Feb.	26, 1803
Phebe	"	Feb.	28, 1805

Children of Moss and Ruth Ingersoll

Sally	born	Mar.	23, 1789
Anne	"	Mar.	12, 1791
David	"	Feb.	28, 1793
Samuel	"	May	24, 1795
Harvey	"	Dec.	1, 1797
Jane Ann	"	Jan.	20, 1810

Children of Elisha and Charity (Judson) Hawley, married Dec. 31, 1786

Elisha	born	Oct.	20, 1788
Judson	"	Dec.	19, 1790
Irad	"		
Daniel	"	Sept.	6, 1795
Stiles	"	Apr.	8, 1799, drowned in Illinois
Thomas Chauncy	"	Jan.	7, 1802

Children of Stephen and Jane Hine Remington

Josiah	born	May	30, 1768
Benjamin	"	June	8, 1776
Anson	"	May	8, 1786

Children of David Perry and Hannah Brown Perry

David	born	Oct.	4, 1782
Samuel	"	June	26, 1784
John	"	May	26, 1786
Betsy	"	Apr.	16, 1788
Nehemiah	"	Nov.	5, 1789
Lucy	"	Dec.	28, 1791

Hannah Brown was born August 26, 1752

Thomas McFarden married Martha Persons, Aug. 31, 1785

Their Child

Elisabeth born Aug. 29, 1786

Joseph Folliot of Marblehead and Annah Tongue of New London were

joined in Marriage Covenant, March ye 6th, 1730/1

Their Children

George born Apr. 30, 1732

Bartlett " Jan. 12, 1735/36

A true copy taken from New London Records

per Daniel Coit, Register

Recorded Nov. 5, 1791, per Ben Smith, Town Clerk

Riah Nash married Esther Lynes August 15, 1782

Their Children

Lewis born Aug. 25, 1784

Sally " June 1, 1786

David " Aug. 11, 1790

Nathan Stebbins married Dorcas Rockwell, May 26, 1791

Their Children

Russell born Mar. 1, 1792

James " Oct. 26, 1794

Charles " Apr. 24, 1797

Fanny " Apr. 20, 1800

Nathan Gould " May 28, 1802

Delia " Nov. 7, 1804

David Mortimer " May 11, 1810

Abigail " June 20, 1813

Sally, daughter of Silas and Elisabeth Hull, born May 15, 1790

Timothy Olmsted married Huldah Sanford Aug. 22, 1791

Their Children

Timothy Sanford born June 24, 1792

Smith " Dec. 9, 1793

Lucretia and Clara (Twins) " Dec. 9, 1795

Legrant " Nov. 12, 1797

Gideon Scott married Anna Burt Oct. 17, 1779

Children of George I. Brinkerhoff and Susanna Brinkerhoff

Sally born Sept. 2, 1788

Betsy " Aug. 21, 1790

Isaac Olmsted married Eunice Dauchy April 21, 1793

Philip Dauchy was born Jan. 25, 1794

Jared Nash married Rachel Scribner July 7, 1793

Their Children

Charles born Dec. 17, 1793

Clara Olmsted " Nov. 11, 1800

Nathan Dauchy married Mary Smith Nov. 3, 1768

Their Children

Samuel	born	July	1, 1769
Sarah	"	Apr.	27, 1771, died June 4, 1773
Nathan	"	May	16, 1773
Polly	"	Mar.	8, 1775, died Aug. 1778
Jeremiah	"	May	20, 1777, died Aug. 1778
Jeremiah and Polly (Twins)	"	July	23, 1779
Electe	"	Mar.	4, 1782
Almira	"	Feb.	26, 1786

Bradley Hull married Mary Hull Jan. 14, 1794

Their son, Burr, was born Jan. 10, 1795

Josiah Smith, 2nd, married Abigail Beers Nov. 16, 1794

Their Children

Abby Maria	born	Sept.	11, 1795
Sarah	"	June	30, 1797
Jacob	"	Feb.	1, 1800
Eliza	"	Oct.	2, 1801
William Gould	"	May	3, 1804

Jonah Keeler married Rebecka Raymond Dec. 30, 1794

Their Children

Josiah Raymond	born	Aug.	22, 1796
George Alton	"	Dec.	19, 1797
Smith B.	"	July	24, 1799
Rufus	"	Jan.	18, 1801
William K.	"	Feb.	24, 1803
Burr	"	Jan.	30, 1806
Jonah C.	"	Mar.	29, 1808
Zalmon G.	"	Feb.	27, 1810
David C.	"	Aug.	11, 1811

Nehemiah Banks married Sarah Sherwood Jan. 21, 1778

Their Children

Zalmon Bradley	born	Nov.	9, 1779
Burr	"	Aug.	17, 1781
Samuel	"	May	2, 1784
Nehemiah and Sarah (Twins)	"	Oct.	10, 1786
Anna	"	May	11, 1789
Abigail	"	Dec.	8, 1790
Mary	"	Feb.	23, 1793
Eliphalet	"	April	6, 1795

Reuben Rockwell married Comfey Gregory Feb. 1, 1795

Their Children

Clara	born	Oct.	8, 1795
Amos	"	Dec.	30, 1796
Arza	"	Mar.	7, 1799

Gamaliel Benedict married Hannah Keeler April 24, 1788

Their Children

Betsy	born	Dec.	28, 1789
Clark	"	June	8, 1791
Gamaliel Northrup	"	July	14, 1793

Children of Thaddeus and Phebe Whitlock

Thaddeus	born	Nov.	4, 1788
Huldah	"	June	26, 1790
Abigail	"	Sept.	27, 1791
John	"	July	7, 1793
Ruth	"	May	5, 1795
William	"	May	6, 1797
Ezra	"	Aug.	16, 1798
Joseph	"	July	29, 1801
Rufus	"	Aug.	21, 1803
Harry	"	Feb.	6, 1805
Eli	"	Jan.	18, 1807
Phebe	"	Dec.	3, 1808

Births and Deaths of the children of Abner Gilbert

Abner	born	Apr.	28, 1772,	died	Sept. 9, 1778
Daton	"	Aug.	15, 1774,	died	Aug. 31, 1778
Martha	"	Dec.	7, 1776,	died	Sept. 19, 1778
Martha	"	Apr.	25, 1779,	died	Nov. 26, 1801
Abner	"	Nov.	15, 1780		
Huldah	"	Nov.	25, 1781		
Daton	"	Sept.	19, 1783		
Harvey	"	Oct.	5, 1786		

Thomas Rockwell married Deborah Townsend July 20, 1795

Their Children

Betsy	born	Sept.	12, 1795
Coleman and Chloe (Twins)	"	Aug.	9, 1799

Children of Ebenezer Jones, Jr., and Hepzibah

Czar	born	July	4, 1789
Walter	"	Mar.	16, 1794
Harriott	"	Feb.	16, 1796
William Rufus	"	Oct.	8, 1799
William	"	Sept.	10, 1815

Children of Philip and Polly Bradley

Harriott Emeline	born	Apr.	9, 1803
Philip Edward	"	July	19, 1809, died July 29, 1809
Mary Ann	"	Aug.	11, 1810

Nathan Dauchy, Jr., married Ruth Bradley Nov. 13, 1794

Their Children

Henry B.	born	Apr.	24, 1795
Jesse B.	"	Oct.	24, 1796
Infant son	"		1799, died Sept. 3, 1801
George	"	Apr.	19, 1800
Charles	"	Jan.	21, 1805

Gould Rockwell married Polly Dauchy Mar. 14, 1807

Their son, Gould, born Mar. 6, 1808

Samuel Sidney, son of Thomas St. John, Jr., and Anna St. John, born
Sept 6, 1806

Children of Timothy and Lois Sherwood

Joanna	born	Jan.	25, 1804
Sally Olmsted	"	Oct.	27, 1805
Betsey	"	July	30, 1807
Caroline	"	June	26, 1809
Edward	"	July	3, 1811
Lois, wife of Timothy	"	Feb.	19, 1785

Children of Daniel and Elizabeth Jones

Isaac	born	June	28, 1792
Alvah	"	Oct.	3, 1793
Phebe	"	Mar.	18, 1795
John S.	"	Sept.	7, 1797, died Aug. 28, 1811
Philo W.	"	May	27, 1802
Polly E.	"	Jan.	1, 1804
Sally	"	Sept.	25, 1807

Children of Abner Gilbert, Jr., and Laura Gilbert

Patty	born	July	4, 1803, died Apr. 13, 1805
Caroline	"	May	5, 1806
Abner	"	Feb.	24, 1808
Joel Abbot	"	Mar.	22, 1811
Sarah	"	July	11, 1813
Laura Baker	"	June	22, 1815
Richard Lee	"	Mar.	4, 1820

Children of Jesse S. and Elizabeth Bradley

Sarah S.	born	Nov.	12, 1806
Philip Burr	"	Jan.	5, 1809
Jesse B.	"	Apr.	4, 1811
Jesse S.	"	May	5, 1813
Francis	"	Nov.	6, 1815
William Henry	"	Nov.	29, 1816
Amos Baker	"	Nov.	27, 1818

Samuel Wallace, son of Rev. Samuel M. and Eliza Phelps, born Sept. 10, 1820

Children of Czar and Sally Jones

Mary S.	born	Mar.	16, 1820
Harriet	"	Apr.	13, 1821
Ebenezer	"	July	24, 1822
Edward B.	"	Dec.	20, 1824
Walter	"	Oct.	18, 1830

William Crocker married Almira Dauchy Sept 20, 1813

William Austin	born	June	5, 1814
Mary Ann	"	Aug.	24, 1816
Charlotte Maria	"	July	19, 1819
George Dauchy	"	Dec.	25, 1822

Lewis L. Nash married Rachel Olmsted Feb. 18, 1809

Their Children

Sally	born	Dec.	21, 1809
Hiram O.	"	Mar.	22, 1811
Albert	"	May	22, 1812
Cornelia	"	Mar.	18, 1814
Harry W.	"	Oct.	3, 1817
Betsy L.	"	Feb.	24, 1819
Levinia	"	June	11, 1827

MARRIAGES

Gideon Benedict married Dorothy Botsford of New Milford, April 11, 1737

Daniel Olmsted married Hannah Ketchum, May 9, 1711

Joseph Crampton married Patience Canfield, daughter of Ebenezer Canfield of Norwalk, Dec. 29, 1714

Richard Olmsted married Mary, daughter of Samuel and Judith Betts of Norwalk, April 22, 1714

Matthew Saintjohn married Anne, daughter of John Whitne of Norwalk, Oct. 13, 1709

Jonathan Wood married Elizabeth, May 28, 1715

Jonah Keeler married Ruth, daughter of Samuell Smith of Norwalk, November 5, 1713

Benjamin Hayt married Sarah, March 21, 1716

Norwalk Samuell Smith married Sarah June 13, 1717

Benjamin Stebbins married Sarah August 14, 1718

Timothy Keeler married Abigail, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Osburn, May 19, 1720

Titus Wood married Abigail, Jan. 13, 1720

Joseph Benedict married Mary, March 21, 1720/1

Matthew Seamore married Hannah Smith, June 14, 1722

Norwalk Samuel Smith married Elizabeth, June 21, 1722

Nathan Saintjohn married Hannah, June 7, 1721

James Scott married Hannah, April 24, 1722

- Samuel Lobdell married Rebecca Saintjohn, Dec. 26, 1722
Joseph Hobart married Sarah Rockwell, May 20, 1723
Gamaliel Northrup married Mary Dauchy, Jan. 3, 1723/4
Jonah Smith married Elizabeth Bennett, Dec. 29, 1726
John Osburn married Patience Ketchum, Sept. 28, 1726
Joshua Lobdell, Junior, married Mary Reynolds, Aug. 9, 1725
Christopher Burt married Joanna, daughter of Capt. Saintjohn, Dec. 21, 1727
Nathan Willson married Phoebe Hobart, June 15, 1727
Samuel Saintjohn married Sarah Northrup, March 6, 1727/8
Joseph Osburn married Mary Hyatt, Aprill 18, 1728
Thomas Willson married Elizabeth Brooks, Jan. 30, 1729
John Northrop, son of William Northrop of Milford, married Rebecca Roberts, Aug. 14, 1728.
William Drinkwater married Elizabeth, daughter of Lt. Benjamin and Mary Benedict of Ridgefield, Dec. 18, 1728
Branford May 13, 1729, Jonathan Abbott of Ridgefield and Lidia Young of Branford were married
Timothy Canfield married Kezia, November 19, 1729
Ebenezer Brooks married Jane, daughter of Capt. Saintjohn, August 27 1730
Nathan Northrup married Peregrina, daughter of Capt. Saintjohn, Aug. 27, 1730
Matthew Benedict married Ruth, daughter of John Keeler late of Norwalk, Dec. 8, 1727
David Rockwell married Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Hyatt, Aug. 29, 1731
BENJAMIN ROCKWELL married REBECKAH WILLSON, April 15, 1731
John Rockwell married Elizabeth Keeler, Sept. 3, 1731
Samuel Osborn married Sarah Simkins, Jan. 1, 1723/4
Ebenezer Lobdell married Rebecca Benedict, Dec. 28, 1732
Ephraim Bennett married Hannah, May 29, 1730
Gideon Smith married Sarah Benedict, Dec. 9, 1731
John Sturdevant married Kezia, Aprill 12, 1732
Peter Benedict married Mary Parish, Oct. 29, 1734
Samuel St. John, Jr., married Sarah, daughter of James and Mary Wallis, Jan. 8, 1735/6
Lemuel Abbott married Martha, daughter of Jonathan and Elizabeth Wood of Norwalk, Dec. 20, 1732
Joseph Lees married Mary Holly, daughter of Daniel and Abigail Holly of Bedford, Feb. 12, 1735/6
Timothy Keeler married Sarah, widow of Thomas Couch of Fairfield, West Parish, Nov. 10, 1736
Gideon Benedict married Dorothy Botsford of New Milford, Apr. 11, 1739
Benjamin Willson married Deborah Bennitt, June 2, 1737
Joseph Keeler married Jane, daughter of Benjamin and Jane Willson, February 26, 1735/6

Jabish Smith married Ruth, daughter of Capt. Matthew Seamore of Norwalk, June 12, 1729
 Ichabod Cole married Ruth, March 14, 1734
 Jonathan Osburn married Rebecca, January 3, 1732
 Samuel Keeler married Mary, January 22, 1735/6
 Timothy Benedict married Sarah, January 24, 1733/4
 Noah StJohn married Jane, October 6, 1737
 Samuel Gates married Rachel, April 1, 1734
 Recompense Thomas married Elizabeth, July 26, 1731
 Thomas Rockwell married Ruth Benedict, May 18, 1732
 Joseph Benedict married Susannah, May 18, 1732
 Vivus Dauchy married Rachel Wallace, November 28, 1732
 Jonathan Rockwell married Esther, October, 1733
 Jabez Northrup married Sarah, March 6, 1735
 Eli Northrup married Abigail, January 3, 1738/9
 James Wallis married Abigail, February 12, 1735/6
 Jabez Morehouse married Mary, November 9, 1738
 Samuel Olmsted married Abiah Smith, April 15, 1737
 Benjamin Goodrich married Hannah Olmsted, March 22, 1737/8
 Joseph Northrup married Allen, August 9, 1738
 Jeremiah Osburn married Rebeckah, January 11, 1738/9
 Daniel Sherwood married Jerusha Whitney, April 29, 1736
 Reverend Jonathan Ingersoll married Mrs. Dorcas Moss, November 10, 1740
 Daniel Benedict married Agnis, February 13, 1739/40
 Peter Benedict married Agnis, June 23, 1737
 Samuel Smith married Ruth Gaylord of New Milford, December 24, 1740
 Daniel Whitne married Thankfull, August 8, 1741
 Thomas Smith married Adar, June 11, 1740
 James Northrup married Rachel, January 13, 1742/3
 Samuel Smith, son of Norwalk Samuel Smith, married Mary Northrup, May 18, 1743
 Daniel Smith married Betty Whitney, January 22, 1741/2
 Nathan Sherwood married Lois, January 4, 1743/4
 Job Smith married Sarah, June 25, 1744
 Stephen Smith married Sarah, January 2, 1744/5
 Timothy Keeler married Mary, July 19, 1744
 Nathan Olmsted married Millicent Goodrich, December 4, 1740
 Ebenezer Grumman married Deborah, November 12, 1742
 Joseph Hauley married Abigail, November 8, 1744
 Aaron Northrup married Rebeckah Hyatt, January 25, 1743/4
 John Smith married Sarah, February 7, 1739/40
 John Lobdell married Ruth, June 25, 1744
 Benjamin Stebbins married Elizabeth, October 8, 1745
 Armoans Elis married Abigail Sherwood, March 16, 1745/6
 Samuel Isaacs married Mary, January 10, 1744/5
 Nathan Hauley married Sarah, July 3, 1746

Caleb Lobdell married Elizabeth, June 27, 1739
 Elijah Hauley married Hannah, October 26, 1742
 Timothy Street married Elizabeth, January 31, 1743/4
 Caleb Lobdell married Elizabeth, June 27, 1739
 Richard Olmsted married Abigail Hayt, January 13, 1740/1
 James Benedict married Mary, May 8, 1740
 Jonathan Brooks married Sarah, April 9, 1744
 Ebenezer Smith married Hannah, June 9, 1747
 Ebenezer Stebbins married Anne, January 13, 1747/8
 Thomas StJohn married Susannah Northrup, March 8, 1759
 Josiah Rockwell married Mary Scott, September 25, 1759
 Jonathan Rockwell married Hannah Bennit, January 1st, 1760
 Hezekiah Osborn married Abigail Goodrich, April 13, 1759
 Thomas Northrup married Mehetable Rockwell, January 1, 1760
 Richard Whitnee married Esther, December 18, 1745
 Stephen Olmsted married Hannah, August 23, 1747
 Isaac Sherwood married Naomi, January 2, 1746
 John Whitnee married Hepzibah Olmsted, June 15, 1746
 Jacob Smith married Sarah, January 12, 1748/9
 Jonah Foster married Abigail, October 15, 1745
 Joseph Foster married Abiah, February 22, 1748/9
 Thomas Northrup married Rachel Morehouse, March 9, 1747/8
 James Scott married Martha, March 12, 1744/5
 John Benedict married Lucy, November 29, 1738
 Timothy Foster married Sarah Smith, September 25, 1749
 John Benedict married Esther, January 24, 1749/50
 Timothy Wood married Rebeckah, November 22, 1749
 Benjamin Hayt married Patience, August 23, 1751
 Ezekiel Olmsted married Lydia Hayt, March 17, 1750/1
 Darius Lobdell married Mary Baldwin, January 16, 1754
 Vivus Dauchy married Hannah Sherwood, March 24, 1750/1
 Joseph Hobart married Ruth Perry, January 3, 1748/9
 Justus Olmsted married Patience, June 10, 1752
 Gideon Betts married Rachel Saintjohn, December 20, 1752
 David Abbott married Anne Cosier, March 19, 1749/50
 Silas Keeler married Abigail Elmer, April 14, 1746
 David Scott married Hannah Smith, August 4, 1751
 Thomas Benedict married Jane Gun, May 27, 1752
 Ambros Olmsted married Martha Comstock, July 5, 1742
 John Keeler married Sarah Northrup, May 30, 1750
 Isaac Keeler married Anne Stebbins, April 29, 1752
 Nathan Olmsted married Sarah Smith, February 12, 1751/2
 Isaac Northrup married Elizabeth Lobdell, January 16, 1752
 John Smith married Clements Mills, October 29, 1751
 Lemuel Morehouse married Rachel Osborn, June 6, 1750
 John Bundy married Sarah Nichols, September 26, 1753
 John Rockwell married Hannah Scott, April 16, 1754

Theophilus Stebbins married Anne Couch, July 7, 1750
 Jonah Smith married Anne Northrup, December 24, 1754
 David Rockwell, Junior, married Mary Atherton, November 2, 1760
 Isaac Keeler married Rachel Northrup, January 16, 1760
 Thomas Seamore married Sarah Rockwell, February 17, 175
 Samuel Keeler, Jr., married Abiah Benedict, March 18, 1761
 Ezekiel Wilson married Hannah Rockwell, September 3, 17
 James Jones married Elisabeth Dauchy, March 18, 1760
 John Sherwood married Hannah Stebbins
 Henry Whitney married Elizabeth Lobdell, December 5, 1755
 Bartholomew Weed married Sarah Benedict, June 12, 1754
 Jesse Benedict married Mehetabel Northrup, September 16, 1756
 Recompense Thomas married Sarah Larranie, February 25, 1757
 Benjamin Keeler married Martha Smith, October 31
 John Morehouse married Deborah Brush, March 14
 Elijah Smith married Elisabeth Benedict, October
 Matthew Benedict married Elisabeth Pomery
 Daniel Jackson married Elisabeth Brooks, April 5
 Eliphaz Nickerson and Sibyl Norris married April 4th
 Daniel Rockwell married Abigail Smith, December 18, 1759
 Samuel Abbott, Jr., married Rebeckah Benedict, September 8, 1753
 Denten Mills married Sarah Cornwall, February 29
 Josiah Rockwell married Mary Scott, September 21, 175
 Thomas Saintjohn married Susannah Northrup, March
 James Saintjohn married Jerusha Thomas, April 15
 Caleb Lobdell married Bithiah Paddock, July
 Nathan Smith married Mary Benedict, December
 Josiah Stebbins married Ruth Rockwell, February
 Bartlet Folliot married Mary Dauchy, August
 George Folliot married Thankful Burt, September
 Daniel Wilson married Sarah Whitlock, February 27
 Stephen Abbot married Elisabeth Davis, March 2
 John Abbott married Rebeckah Taylor, November

DEATHS

Samuel Keeler deceased May 19, 1713, aged 58 years
 Sarah Keeler, widow of Samuel Keeler, deceased April 15, 1714
 Timothy Keeler, deceased August 30, 1748
 Annie, wife of Joseph Benedict, deceased December 9, 1716
 Uzziell, son of Thomas and Experience Hyatt, deceased February 14, 1712
 John Sturdevant, deceased July 27, 1718
 Ruth, daughter of Jonah and Ruth Keeler, deceased January 26, 1718
 Samuell and Sarah Smith had a child dead born, June 7, 1718
 Joseph and Patience Crampton had a child dyed aged one day, Aug. 12, 1718
 Rebecka, daughter of Daniell and Ruth Sherwood, deceased Feb. 12, 1719

Benjamin and Sarah Stebbins had a child dead born, September, 1719
 Thankfull, daughter of Benjamin and Sarah Burt dyed Sept. 22, 1719
 Sarah, wife of Richard Osburn, deceased November 6, 1719
 Abigail, daughter of Samuel and Rebeckah Saintjohn, deceased Apr. 28, 1720
 Benjamin Stebbins had an infant dyed unbaptized and unnamed Sept. 13, 1720
 Sarah, wife of Norwalk Samuel Smith, deceased Oct. 22, 1720
 Abigail, daughter of Titus and Abigail Wood, deceased Nov. 2, 1720
 Daniell, son of Amos and Mary Whittamore, deceased April 20, 1721
 Hannah, daughter of Jonah and Ruth Keeler, deceased 1722
 Daniel, son of Daniel and Hannah Olmsted, deceased Sept. 2, 1730
 Mary Benedict, wife of Peter Benedict, deceased Oct. 12, 1736
 Josiah Benedict, son of Peter and Mary Benedict, deceased Dec. 7, 1736
 Elisabeth, daughter of Gamaliel and Mary Northrup, Mar. 1, 1725
 Gamaliel, son of Gamaliel and Mary Northrup, deceased Sept. 2, 1736
 Nathan, son of Milford Samuell Smith and Elizabeth Smith, deceased Feb. 9, 1726
 James Bennett, deceased July 27, 1726
 Sarah, daughter of Timothy and Abigail Keeler, deceased Dec. 2, 1726
 John and Patience Osburn had an infant dyed before baptism, Feb. 14, 1728
 Henry Whitne, deceased April 26, 1728
 John, son of John and Patience Osborn, deceased November 25, 1728
 Abraham, son of David and Margaret Whitlock, deceased May 2, 1728
 John and Patience Osburn had a child dead born, Oct. 12, 1729
 William Ventrum died by a tree blown down on him, Sept. 9, 1730
 Daniel, son of Daniel and Hannah Olmsted, deceased Sept. 22, 1730
 ✓ JONATHAN ROCKWELL, deceased June 19, 1731
 Sarah, wife of Samuel Saintjohn, deceased June 20, 1731
 Mary, daughter of Jonah and Elizabeth Smith, deceased March 25, 1732
 John, son of Matthew and Ruth Benedict, deceased Aprill 24, 1732
 John, son of Joseph and Sarah Nichols. deceased July 6, 1732
 Mary, wife of Samuel Gates, deceased March 26, 1732
 ✓ ABIGAIL, wife of Jonathan Rockwell, deceased July 8, 1734
 Peter, son of Peter and Mary Benedict, deceased August 10, 1735
 William, son of John and Rebecca Northrup, deceased Jan. 14, 1734
 Abigail, wife of Timothy Keeler, deceased Nov. 24, 1735
 Abigail, daughter of John and Elizabeth Lowder, deceased Nov. 19, 1734
 Mary, daughter of John and Elizabeth Lowder, deceased March 26, 1736
 Mary, daughter of Jabez and Keziah Rockwell, deceased Aug. 16, 1736
 Rebeckah, daughter of Jabez and Keziah Rockwell, deceased Oct. 8, 1736
 James, son of John and Patience Osburn, deceased Jan. 28, 1736/7
 Jonah Northrup, deceased March 31, 1736
 Jeremiah Benedict, son of Joseph and Susannah Benedict, died May 17, 1735
 Samuel, son of Ichabod and Ruth Cole, deceased December 1, 1736
 Ruth, daughter of Thomas and Ruth Rockwell, deceased Oct. 12, 1736
 Hannah, daughter of Squire James and Sarah Benedict, deceased March 12, 1737

Abigail, daughter of Thomas and Experience Hyatt, died Oct. 6, 1736
 Rev. Thomas Hauley, deceased Nov. 8, 1738, aged 49 years
 Daniel Northrup, son of Gamaliel and Mary Northrop, died Jan. 18, 1738/9
 Samuel Benedict, son of Capt. Benjamin Benedict, died Oct. 13, 1740
 Patience, daughter of John and Patience Osburn, died Apr. 27, 1741
 Mary, daughter of Joseph and Mary Osburn, died March 15, 1740/41
 Deacon Thomas Smith, died Sept. 15, 1743
 Abigail, daughter of Joseph and Abigail Hauley, died Oct. 7, 1745
 Ebenezer Smith, died November 4, 1744
 Mary, daughter of Timothy and Sarah Keeler, died Nov. 22, 1745
 Ezra, son of Matthew and Ruth Benedict, died Sept. 15, 1745
 Elizabeth, wife of Ebenezer Brooks, died Nov. 17, 1745
 Ezekiel Hauley, died March 11, 1745/6
 Phebe Doolittle, died Jan. 24, 1745/6
 Mary, daughter of Richard and Mary Olmsted, died Aug. 3, 1746
 James Smith, son of Gideon Smith, died Dec. 27, 1779, aged 39 years
 Samuel Smith, formerly of Norwalk, died Jan. 25, 1764
 Daniel Sherwood, died May 17, 1766
 John Rockwell, died July 4, 1773
 Theophilus Stebbins, died Mar. 24, 1777
 Capt. Richard Olmsted, died Oct. 16, 1776
 Currents, daughter of Anne and Abner Wilson, died Oct. 13, 1777
 Samuel Smith died with small-pox, Jan. 20, 1782
 Mary, wife of Samuel Smith, died with small-pox, Dec. 26, 1781
 Benjamin, son of Benjamin Sherwood, died April 3, 1777
 Cynthia, daughter of Thaddeus Rockwell, died Mar. 15, 1781
 Noah Starr, died Jan. 6, 1782
 David Cain, died Apr. 8, 1783
 Jonathan Rockwell, died Sept. 3, 1784
 William Lee, son of Mr. William Lee, died Sept. 11, 1778
 Benjamin Stebbins, son of Benjamin and Elizabeth Stebbins, died Oct. 1781
 Clarissa, daughter of Henry and Ruth Whitney, died July 5, 1785
 Edmund Frasure (of Scilly Islands and Ireland) died of Fever at the house
 of Peter Waddy, Mar. 23, 1788, aged 64 years
 Naomi Sherwood, died Jan. 6, 1789
 Mary, wife of Dr. Stephen Bennitt, died July 25, 1789
 Seth Lee, died Oct. 14, 1790 with ye small-pox
 William Lee died Jan. 7, 1791, aged 82
 Denton Mills, died Nov. 9, 1791
 Lyman Resseguie, died Dec. 18, 1791
 Ruth Sherwood, died Aug. 7, 1792
 Anne, daughter of Moss Ingersoll, died Aug. 15, 1793
 Henry Whitney, died July 9, 1794, in the 79th year of his age
 Daniel Dean died Sept. 12, 1794, aged 84 years
 Negro Girl belonging to Elijah Smith, died Apr. 2, 1795
 Vivus Dauchy, died Dec. 16, 1795, aged 89 years
 Elihu Chauncey, son of Rev. Samuel Goodrich, died June 9, 1797

Esther Lee, wife of Daniel Lee, died Mar. 3, 1798
Widow Miriam Cremer, died Oct. 16, 1799, aged 97 years
Abraham Nash, died June 24, 1801, aged 83 years
Jacob Resseguie, died Dec. 7, 1801, aged 82 years
Joseph Jagger, died Dec. 24, 1802, supposed to be one hundred years old
Dr. Stephen Bennet, died Sept. 25, 1802
Emily Chauncey, daughter of Rev. Samuel Goodrich, died Oct. 22, 1803
Silas Hull, died Nov. 14, 1803, aged 65 years
Trowbridge Bennett, died Sept. 4, 1804
Talcott Hawley, died Apr. 11, 1807, aged 44 years
Gilbert Yabbacom, died Dec. 20, 1807, aged 78
Hugh Cain, died Apr. 11, 1808
James Rockwell, died Nov. 25, 1808
John Baldwin, died Nov. 9, 1809
Robert S. Edmond, died Jan. 12, 1813, aged 43 years
Currents, a daughter of Timothy Bouton, died July 8, 1815, in the 2 year
of her age
Matthew Seymour, died Nov. 24, 1816, aged 94
Lucy, daughter of Dr. David Perry, died Feb. 17, 1818, in the 27th year
of her age
Nab, a woman of colour, and late servant of Matthew Seymour, deceased,
died Sept. 24, 1818, aged 40 years
Robert Edmond, died May 6, 1819, aged 92 years
Joseph Ingersoll, died July 16, 1819, aged 66 years
Colonel Philip Burr Bradley, born Mar. 26, 1738, died Jan. 4, 1821

APPENDIX

COPY OF THE WILL MADE BY DANIEL SHERWOOD OF RIDGEFIELD, CONNECTICUT, 1749.

In the name of God Amen and Amen, I, Daniel Sherwood of Ridgefield in the County of Connecticut in New England, being sick and weak of body but of perfect mind and memory thanks be to God. Therefore do make my last will and testament in manner and form following permission, I commit my soul to God who gave it, hoping and trusting in the merits of Jesus my Redeemer for ye pardon of all my sins and forever lasting life after death, and my body I define to have a christian burial at disper-sion of my executors hereafter mentioned and as for my worldly estate wherewith it has pleased God to bless me with I dispose in the following form and manner (viz) (item)

My will and pleasure is that all my just and lawful debts and funeral charges be paid out of my estate by my executors mentioned (item) I give my right of commonage to my four sons, Daniel — nathan — Isaac and John Sherwood, to be equally divided amongst them (Item) I give my eld-est son Daniel Sherwood one half of a certain piece of land or tract lying on Southward of Mamasquo mill pond so called bounded northerly by highway otherwise bounded by Benjamin Burt and Benjamin Hoyt's pond. I give him seventy acres of land at said New Patting (New Patent) so called by deed of gift and a dwelling house and barn and a good orchard and sundry utentials belonging to a farmer and a family and a good fence around thirty acres of land which is his full portion of my estate (Item) I give my son Nathan Sherwood Five shillings which is the full of his portion of my estate with what I have already given him from lands by deeds of gift and money the sum of Six hundred pounds. (Item) I give my son Isaac Sherwood my land behind the grate swamp adjoining to Benjamin Stebbins and Thomas Hawley and his own land and highway also a piece of land lying over the highway to the left of it above mentioned piece bounded always by common land and a piece of land I bought of Nathan Hawley in ye short hills so called by the side of Richard Boggs and a piece of land called a twenty acre division lying south of a road between Ridgefield and Elisha Jackson's mill and also half my cart which is a whole of his portion of my estate with what I have already given him in deeds of land and other things belonging to a farmer. (Item) I give my son John Sherwood one half my home lot on the north side with the barn adjoining to Samuel Isaacs and the north end of my dwelling house and half the cellar under the same and all my land at the six acre lot, so called, and my grate swamp meadow and all my land adjoining to the same and my land at Metiticus, so called, bound

west by highway and other ways by Benjamin Stebbins and Daniel Smiths and all my land at Sturvedant Ridge—so called, and my four year old steer and my black horse and half my cart and my long chain and plow irons one axe and one yoke and my will is that my son John move out of my dwelling house to leave the north part of my dwelling house to belong to my daughter Hannah, and about three hundred rails lying east of the Candle wood, so called. (Item) I give to my daughter Hannah one half of my house lot on the south side adjoining to Benjamin Burt and the south end of my dwelling house and half of the cellar more than to be equal with my other daughters for ye hard work she has done for me and I owe it to her. (Item) I give to my son John and my two daughters Hannah & Abigal all my hogs and all my corn now growing and all my wheat in the barn and all my corn in the house and all my rye and oats and all my hay to be equally divided amongst them and all my wheat in the house. (Item) I give to my daughters Hannah and Abigal, six hundred pounds a piece out of my estate and three hundred pounds to my daughter Ruth Lobdell which will make her equal with my daughter Abigal, if there be enough of my estate which was not mentioned in my will, and if there be not enough to divide it equal amongst them and if there is more to be equally divided amongst my four sons—Daniel, Nathan, Isaac & John. (Lastly) I constitute and ordain Captain Richard Olmsted and Samuel Olmsted Esq. to be Executors of this my last will and testament dated at

Signed sealed and done in presence of:

Ridgefield this 19th day of August (Anno Dom.) 1749. Daniel Sherwood

Cabel Lobdell

Ebenezer Smith

Samuel Isaacs.

Ridgefield, September 4th, 1749. There appeared personally Cabel Lobdell—Ebenezer Smith and Samuel Isaacs all of lawful age witnesses to the within written will and declared that they saw Mr. Daniel Sherwood set his hand and seal to the within will and testament and also judge him to be of perfect mind and memory and that they desired and did set to there hands as witnesses to the same in the presence of ye testator.

Sworn before me——— Samuel Olmsted

Justice of the Peace

At a court of probate held in Danbury October 27, 1749, Captain Richard Olmsted and Samuel Olmsted Esq. Executors to ye within will exhibited the same for probation and they executed the trust reposed in them by the testator the will was read and approved of in this court and ordered by the court to be recorded.

Attest Thad. Benedict

Clerk

The above and foregoing is a true record of ye original will.

Attest—Thad Benedict

Register

OTHER PURCHASES FROM THE INDIANS

Altogether there were eight purchases made by the proprietors of the Town of Ridgefield from the Indians. The second purchase was made on the 18th of March, 1715, and is recorded as follows:

"Know all men by these presents that I Tackora alias Oreneca, indian, one of the native proprietors and owners of these tracts of unpurchased lands Lying above Ridgefield in ye County of Fairfield and Colony of Connecticut in New England for and in consideration of four pounds Current money of ye Colony of Connecticut to me in hand paid, or secured to be paid by ye proprietors of the Town of Ridgfield in the County and Colony aforesaid viz Mr. Richard Osburn Samuel Saint John Benjamin Wilson Thomas Smith Thomas Hauley Jonah Keeler, Timothy Keeler Norwalk Samuel Smith Daniel Olmsted, Jonathan Rockwell Benjamin Hayt Henry Whitne Joseph Northrup Milf^d Samuel Smith Joshua Lobdell Moses Northrup Benjamin Benedick, Richard Olmsted, Ebenezer Smith James Wallace Daniel Sherwood, Benjamin Burt David Scott John Sturdevant Joseph Platt Milford Thomas Hyatt ye Heirs of Thomas Rockwell deceased Matthew Saint John Matthias Saint John Joseph Keeler Matthew Seamer Daniel Arms James Benedict Joseph Benedict James Northrup Joseph Crampton and Jonathan Wood, Have and do by these presents freely clearly and absolutely Grant Sell and Confirm unto the above named proprietors of the Town of Ridgefield and their heirs and assigns for ever a certain tract or parcel of Land belonging unto me ye said Oreneca Lying Situate being bounded as followeth viz beginning at a White Wood tree standing about four rods west of ye Mill and stands on the north side of the outlett running out of Mamansquogg pond on which the Mill now stands and from thence running by ye said Outlett till we come to a small Elm Staddle marked on each side and standing on the East side of ye Mill outlett, and from thence over Titicus to a butternutt tree, and from thence under the Mountain as tis bounded by marked trees till we come to a black Oak tree marked on each side, thence Elbowing till we come to a marked Bass tree Lying by a brook, near the lower end of Mopoos Ridge, thence immediately across ye brook to a black Oak tree a little below the Lower End of Mopoos Ridge, thence over Titicus near a Northwest line as tis bounded by trees, to a small black Oak Staddle standing by a small brook, running out of the West hills, thence Directly over the brook near a southwest line to a white Oak tree under ye mountain with stones laid about the same which is a corner boundary and from hence a South or South East line as tis bounded to a Small Walnut Staddle standing on a heap of rocks, thence something South East down towards ye pond; thence something Eastward between the mountain and Mamanasquogg pond to the lower end thereof, over a small run then named punch Brook, thence about fourty rods South East to a white Oak tree marked and stones Lay'd about the same which was the lower corner meeting with the Old Purchase, all which quantity or parcel of Land, I the said Oreneca Have sold and Confirmed unto ye above named propri-

etors their heirs and assigns for ever to enjoy ye same in quantity and quality, according to each mans interest or propriety of Lands in Ridgfield, immediately before the purchase hereof i. e. a half right man shall have but half so good an interest in the bargained premises as a whole right man shall, (the said James Wallace excepted) To Have and to Hold unto them ye said proprietors their heirs and assigns for ever, ye said bargained premises with all the priviledges and Appurtenances thereunto belonging, to the only use benefit and behoof of the said proprietors their heirs and assigns for ever, without any Let Claim or molestation from me the said Oreneca, alias Tackora or my heirs Executors administrators or assigns for ever, or from any person or persons, Indian or English or any other by from or under me or them whatsoever Laying and Demand Challenge or Claim thereunto and I the above named Oreneca do bind myself my heirs Executors and administrators firmly by these presents to free and exonerate all the above bargained premises from any former and other Grants, bargains mortgages or any other incumbrances Whatsoever. In Witness whereof I the said Oreneca have hereunto Set my hand and Seal this 18 day of March anno Domini 1715.

his

"Oreneca x alias Tackora.
mark

"Signed sealed and delivered
in presence of us
Eliphalet Lockwood
Joseph Platt
Ocomoywa x mark
Consent."

"Norwalk within the County of Fairfield March 18th day anno Domini 1715. Personally appeared Tackora, alias Oreneca, indian the subscriber to this instrument and did acknowledge it to be his free act and deed before me.

"JOSEPH PLATT, Justice Peace.

"Received to Record April 1715 and recorded by me.

"Thomas Hawley, Register."

The third purchase was made November 22, 1721, and is recorded as follows:

"Know all men by these Presents, that I Tackore, otherwise called Norreneca Indian do for and in consideration of the Sum of Six Pounds in Money to me in hand paid or secured to be paid by the Proprietors of Ridgfield, whose names hereafter follows viz Thomas Hawley Richard Osburn Samuel Saint John Benjamin Benedict Benjamin Burt Benjamin Stebbins Ebenezer Smith Thomas Smith Richard Olmsted Joshua Lobdell Milford Samuel Smith Nathan Saint John Henry Whitney Jonathan Rockwell

Benjamin Hayt Norwalk Samuel Smith Daniel Olmstead Timothy Keeler Matthew Seamore Moses Northrup Jonathan Abbott Allexander Resseguie Jonathan Wood, Joseph Benedict James Benedict James Northrup Joseph Keeler Matthew St John Thomas Rockwells Heirs, Benjamin Wilson Thomas Hyatt, John Sturdevant Heirs, Joseph Platt Gideon Platt Henry Dwight David Scott James Scott Daniel Sherwood, Do Give Grant bargain Sell and by these presents have given Granted Bargained Sold and fully confirmed unto the aforesaid Proprietors viz Thomas Hawley Richard Osborn Samuel Saint John Benjamin Burt Benjamin Benedict with all the rest before named and to their heirs and assigns for ever, a certain parcel or tract of Land lying within ye Pattend bounds and supposed Township of said Ridgefield lying and described as follows viz Beginning upon ye north side of the Brook at the South End of Titicus or Tomspring mountain (so called) at a great Tree marked in the Old purchase line. Thence South West to the South End of ye long swamp marking trees. Thence to the East side of Round pond, and by said Pond to the North West side of it. Thence Norwest acrost the Hills to a brook running into the east end of the Long Pond marking Trees from thence a direct course over the brook to a Hemlock tree standing on Titicus River by the Sand Bank near a brook running into Titicus on the West side of said Tree which tree is thus marked B and thence as the river runs to said Tackore Old House to a white Oak Tree marked near a horse pound, thence crossing the River to a Tree marked just on the River Thence across ye south end of Mopoos Ridge to a great White Oak tree standing at the northernmost part of a swamp thence crossing the end of the swamp to another marked tree crossing the end of a plain Ridge of Land over Mopoos brook coming from the north to a white Oak tree marked standing on ye East side of a brook by the bank.

"Thence easterly to the range of Asproom Mountain and southerly down under the mountain to the head of Mamanasco hill to a white Oak tree standing on the East side of the River near the Watering place. Thence under Asproom mountain at the foot thereof to Copps Mountain and down to the Old line and by said line Westerly to the Mill at the old boundary, and from thence to the first mentioned place in the boundaries in computing their former purchase called the New purchase.

"To have and To Hold said Granted and bargained premises with all the priviledges and appurtenances to the same belonging or in any wise appertaining I Norreneca say I have sold and fully made over ye same unto the said Thomas Hawley Richard Osborn Samuel Saint John &c with the above named proprietors and to their heirs and assigns for ever, who shall and may for ever hereafter by virtue hereof Enter upon possess and Enjoy ye same Convey Convert alienate and improve the same according to their Several Interests in what way and manner, to what use and end soever, they the above named proprietors their heirs and assigns shall find convenient. Furthermore I the said Norreneca do hereby Covenant and Engage to Warrant and defend ye same for ever to ye above said proprietors, their heirs and assigns from me my heirs Executors or Administrators or any Indian or Indians, whatsoever Laying any Lawfull

Claim or Challenge thereunto. In Testimony Whereof I do hereunto Set my hand and Seal this 22d day of November Anno Domini 1721.

his
 "NORRENEKE x Indian. (Seal.)
 mark.

"Signed Sealed and Delivered
 in presence of us
 Benjamin Stebbins
 Timothy Canfield

"On the 22d of November anno Domini 1721 Norreneca indian personally appeared and acknowledged the above written Instrument to be his free act and deed before me.

"RICHARD OSBURN Justice."

"Received to Record November 22nd 1721 and recorded pr me

"Thomas Hawley Register."

The fourth purchase was made on the 4th day of July, 1727. The deed is as follows:

"Know all men by these presents That We Japorneck & Moses, Indians belonging to Wepack or long pond so Called & Richard and Samm Indians belonging to ammauogg do For and in Consideration of eighteen pounds in money or goods Equivalent, two guns, Eighteen Shillings in hand received, and Three bottles of Rhum, paid by ye propriet^r of Ridgefield, Whose Names hereafter Follow, Viz, Thomas Hauley, Richard Osburn, Saml Saintjohn, Benjamin Benedict, Benjamin Burt, Benjamin Stebbins Ebenezer^r Smith, Thomas Smith, Richard Olmsted Joshua Lobdell, Milf Saml Smith, Nathan Saintjohn, Henry Whitne, Jonath^a Rockwell, Benjamin Hayt, Jonathan Abbott Sen^r, Allexand^r Resseguie, Titus Wood, Joseph Benedick, James Benedict, James Northrup, Joseph Northrup Joseph Lee, Joseph Keeler, Benjamin Heacock Benjamin Wilson, Thomas Hyatt, John Sturdevants heirs, Joseph Platt, Gideon Platt, David Scott, James Scott, Dan^l Sherwood, Norwalk Sam^l Smith, Daniel Olmsted, Timothy Keeler, Jonah Keeler, Matthew Seamore, Joseph Hobart, Moses Northrup, Give, Grant, bargain Sell, and by these presents do freely fully, and absolutely Sell Convey and Confirm unto ye said Proprietors above named, according to their Severo^l interests in the Proprietyship of Ridgefield, a Certain tract, or parcell of land hereafter described, and mentioned, Namely, all ye lands included within ye lines hereafter mentioned, beginning at a large White Oak tree mark't, Standing about twenty miles three hundred and five rod's from Cortlands point the line agreed upon by the Commission and from thence a line Southerly parrallel to ye line Call'd twenty miles from Hudson River, till it meet ye former purchase made by Cottoona: and again from ye fore mentioned white Oak Tree a line Northerly parrallel also to said Twenty mile line till it meet ye purchase made of Tackore, Comprehending all ye land, Eastward of said lines, till it come to ye old purchase lines, to have and to hold ye said Granted and bargained premises with all ye

privilidges and Commodities to the same belonging, or in any wise appertaining, We said indians have sold and fully made over ye same unto ye above Named Proprietors and to their heirs and assigns forever, in such proportion as above, according to their sever^l interests to them and theirs, Sole and proper use and benefitt, who shall and may forever hereafter by virtue hereof enter upon, possess and enjoy ye same, Convey, Convert, alienate and improve it in what way and manner, to what use and soever, they the above named proprietors their heirs and assigns Shall See Convenient.

"Furthermore we the said Japorneck, Richard Moses and Samm, indians, do for ourselves and heirs hereby Covenant and Engage to warrant and defend ye same forever unto ye Proprietors of Ridgefield aforesaid and to their heirs and assigns forever, from us and our heirs or any persons what forever, whether English or indians laying any lawfull claim Challenge or demand thereunto.

"In Testimony whereof we do hereunto set our hands and Seals this 4th day of July Anno Domini 1727.

JAPORNECK, his x mark. (Seal.)

RICHARD, his x mark. (Seal.)

MOSES, his x mark. (Seal.)

SAM, his x mark. (Seal.)

WETT HAMS, his x mark. (Seal.)

AMMON, his x mark. (Seal.)

"Signed Sealed and delivered

In presence of us

John Bolt, his x mark.

Peter Randall.

"July 4th, 1727 then appeared ye persons of Japorneck Moses, Richard, Sam, Wett Hams, and Ammon Indians, and did acknowledge the above written Instrument to be their free act and deed. Before me

"RICHARD OSBURN Just^s.

"Received to record July 4th, 1727 and recorded pr me

"THOMAS HAULEY Register."

In the year 1729 two other purchases were made, one on the 7th of March; the other on the 10th of April. The deed executed on the 10th of April, as will be noted, took in a section in the upper end of the townshipp, beginning at the southwest corner of Danbury, which is just below Starr's Plain, and the northerly and southerly boundary ran across the entire township. A large section of the Oblong was taken in and it will be seen that this piece was triangular in shape.

"Know all men by these presents that we Japporneck, Ammon and Wett hams, Sam Moses, Pawquenongi and Crow all indians belonging to long pond or Wepack for and in Consideration of a valuable reward paid or to be paid by ye Proprietors of Ridgefield Have Given, Granted, bargained Sold and by these presents do freely fully and absolutely Sell, Convey, and Confirm unto ye proprietors of Ridgefield their heirs and

assigns forever, according unto their several interests or proprieties a Certain Tract or parcell of land Supposedly in ye Township of Ridgefield Lying Situate and Butted and bounded as Followeth, Namely, Beginning West at an Oak Straddle standing on ye west side of ye Outlett of long pond about six rods west of said Outlett, Near ye lower fishing place, from thence Southward along ye line which Mr Lewis run, and down to ye old purchase line; and from said Staddle Northward by said Line of Mr Lewis to Titicus river, and bounded East by ye former purchase made of Japporneck and by ye purchase made of Tackora being in breadth, about three hundred and five rods.

"To Have and To Hold said Granted and bargained premises with all ye liberties and priviledges to ye same belonging or in any wise appertaining.

"We say we have sold and fully made over ye same unto ye said proprietors of Ridgefield according to their proportionable interests and proprieties as above, and to their heirs and assigns forever, who shall and may forever hereafter by virtue hereof, Enter upon possess and Enjoy ye same Convey Convert alienate and improve it, in what way and manner, to what use and end forever they the said proprietors their heirs, or assigns shall See Convenient.

"Furthermore We the said Japporneck Ammon and Wett Hams, Moses, Samm Pawquenongi and Crow do for ourselves heirs, and assigns, hereby Covenant and Engage to warrant and defend ye above Granted, and bargained premises unto ye said proprietors, their heirs and assigns, from us Our heirs, Executors, administrators, or any manner of person or persons what forever, English or indian laying any manner of Claim Challenge or demand thereunto from by, or under us, or Ours. In Testimony whereof we do hereunto set our hands and Seals this 7th day of March Anno Domini 1729.

JAPORNECK, his x mark.	(Seal.)
MOSES, his x mark.	(Seal.)
SAMM, his x mark.	(Seal.)
AMMON, his x mark.	(Seal.)
WETT HAMS, his x mark.	(Seal.)
PAWQUENONGI, his x mark.	(Seal.)
CROW, his x mark.	(Seal.)

"Signed Sealed and Delivered

In presence of us

Josiah Gilbert,
William Drinkwater.

"March ye 7th 1729 then appeared personally ye Subscribers Namely Japporneck, Moses Samm Ammon, Wett Hams, Pawquenongi, Crow and did acknowledge ye above written Instrument to be their free act and deed, Before me

"RICHARD OSBURN Justice.

"Received to record March 7th 1729 and recorded pr me

"THO^s HAWLEY Regist^r."

"Know all men by these presents, that we Ah Topper Mokens Neshucawpo Tauquatoose Waw Sachim all Indians belonging unto Hooppacks, and Jacob Turkey Indian belonging to Narrahawtong. For and in consideration of a valluable Sum or reward paid by the proprietors of Ridgefield which is to our full satisfaction, have given Granted bargained Sold, and by these presents do freely fully and absolutely Sell Convey and confirm unto said proprietors their heirs and assigns forever according to their several interests the following Tract or parcell of Land — viz Beginning at Danbury South West Corner Continuing Our patten line till it meets ye 20 mile line between the Government, and then Southwardly by said 20 mile line, till it cross Titicus River and thence Eastwardly to Danbury South West Corner, Bounded all along Southerly by our former purchase.

"To have and To Hold said granted and bargained premises with all the privileges and appurtenances to ye same belonging or in any wise appertaining we say we have sold, and fully made over the same unto ye said proprietors and to their heirs and assigns forever, in proportion to their several interests, who shall and may forever hereafter by virtue hereof enter upon posses and enjoy the same, Convey Convert alienate and improve it in what way and manner, to what use and end soever, they ye said proprietors their heirs and assigns shall see Convenient.

"Furthermore we the indians above named do for ourselves and heirs hereby Covenant and engage to Warrant and Defend the same forever unto the proprietors of Ridgefield as above from us Our heirs or successors or any manner of person whatever English or Indians laying any lawfull claim Challenge or Demand thereunto.

"In Testimony whereof we the above named Indians do hereunto Set Our Hands and Seals this 10th day of Aprill Anno Domini 1729.

AH TOPPER, his x mark.	(Seal.)
MOKENS, his x mark.	(Seal.)
JACOB TURKEY, his x mark.	(Seal.)
NESHUCAWPO, his x mark.	(Seal.)
TAUQUATOOSE, his x mark.	(Seal.)
WAW SACHIM, his x mark.	(Seal.)
WAW CALI, his x mark.	(Seal.)
CAPT JACOB, his x mark.	(Seal.)

Two boys

"Signed Sealed and delivered

in presence of us

Israel Mead

Caleb Strong

Moses indian his x mark.

Crow, his x mark.

On the 28th of February, 1738, and on the 6th of December, 1734, two purchases were made that were within the limits of the State of New York, on the Oblong. These deeds are also recorded upon our town records.

The eighth and last purchase of lands from the Indians was made

on the 19th of December, 1739. This purchase included land in Ridgebury and running as far north as the town of New Fairfield. In fact, it appears to be the same part of the township which was granted to the proprietors of the town of Ridgefield by the general assembly in 1731. The following is the deed:

"Know all men by these presents that we Betty ye mother of Jacob Turkey, Capt Jacob Turkey, Mokquaroose, for and in consideration of ye sum of six pounds five shillings money to us in hand paid, or secured to be paid by Lt Eben^r Smith, Capt Daniel Olmsted, & Matthew Seamore of Ridgefield in ye County of Fairfield and Colony of Connecticut in New England and which is to our full Satisfaction, Do Give Grant Bargain Sell and by these presents Have Given Granted, Bargained Sold and fully confirm unto ye above S^d Lt Eben^r Smith Capt Daniel Olmsted & Matthew Seamore and their associates, and to their heirs & assigns forever a certain parcell or tract of Lands Lying within ye new Pattent Bounds Called in ye Township of Ridgefield, as it is Butted & Bounded on ye east by Danbury Township, north by New Fairfield, on ye west by ye Government Line Southerly by Our former Purchase made of Jacob Turkey. To Have, and to Hold said Granted & Bargained premises with all ye priviledges & appurtenances to ye Same belonging or in any wise appertaining, We ye said Betty, Jacob Turkey, Mokquaroose, say we have sold and Fully made over ye same unto ye said Lt Eben^r.Smith, Capt Dan^l Olmsted and Matthew Seamore, their Associates, and their heirs and assigns for Ever, who shall and may for Ever hereafter, by virtue hereof Enter upon Possess and Enjoy ye Same Convey, Convert, Alionate, and improve ye Same according to their Severall interests, in what way, and manner to what use & end and So Ever they ye above named Lt Eben^r Smith, Capt Daniel Olmsted, and Matthew Seamore, their Associates, or their heirs and assigns Shall See Convenient.

Furthermore we ye said Betty, Jacob Turkey, Mokquaroose, Defend ye same for ever to ye abovesaid Lt Eben^r Smith, Capt Dan^l Olmsted, & Matthew Seamore their associates heirs and assigns from us, our heirs Execut^r administrat^r, or any Indian or Indians Whatsoever, or any manner of persons, Laying any Lawfull Claim Challenge, or Demand thereunto. In Testimony whereof we do hereunto Set our hands & Seals this 19th day of December A. D. 1739.

"BETTY, her x mark.

"Jacob Turkey"

"Mokquaroose."

On the road between Ridgebury and Mill Plain is a corner which has always been known as "Betty's Corner."

DELEGATES FROM RIDGEFIELD TO THE CONSTITUTIONAL
CONVENTION OF 1818.

Joshua King
Abner Gilbert, Jr.

DELEGATE FROM RIDGEFIELD TO THE CONSTITUTIONAL
CONVENTION OF 1902.

William O. Seymour

PRESIDENTIAL ELECTOR.

Phineas C. Lounsbury was a Presidential Elector in 1880 upon the Republican Ticket, when Garfield and Arthur were elected.

DELEGATES TO NATIONAL CONVENTIONS.

The following citizens of Ridgefield have been chosen as delegates to Republican National Conventions:

George L. Rockwell	1904 (President Roosevelt was nominated.)
Harvey P. Bissell	1920 (President Harding was nominated.)

STATE SENATORS AND OTHER OFFICIALS

Ridgefield was formerly in the 11th State Senatorial District, then in the 12th, and is now in the 24th. The following persons from Ridgefield have been elected senators from the 11th District:

1834	John F. King
1837	Samuel S. St. John
1849	Joshua I. King
1853	John B. Hyatt
1867	Peter P. Cornen
1875	Lewis H. Bailey

From the 12th District

1895-1899 George E. Lounsbury

From the 24th District

1915-1921 Harvey P. Bissell

Harvey P. Bissell served as State Comptroller from 1921 to 1923. Mr. Bissell was appointed Collector of the Port of Connecticut by President Harding, July 18th, 1923. This appointment was one of the last of President Harding's official acts. Mr. Bissell was appointed for the full term of four years by President Coolidge on December 19th, 1923.

Two of Ridgefield's citizens, R. Jay Walsh, and his brother, James F. Walsh of Greenwich, have held high positions in this State. R. Jay Walsh served as senator from his district and was Secretary of State for two terms, 1889 to 1893. James F. Walsh also served as senator and was Treasurer of the State, 1905 to 1907. From 1919 to 1921 he was Speaker of the House of Representatives.

The Whig ticket given on another page was voted at an election held on April 7th, 1851, and the Hayes and Wheeler ticket in the national election of 1876. On May 5th, 1914, the town voted that voting machines shall be used in future elections.

Whig Ticket

For Governor
LAFAYETTE S. FOSTER

For Lieut. Governor,
GREEN KENDRICK

For Secretary
ROGER H. MILLS.

For Treasurer,
THOMAS CLARK.

For Comptroller,
SELAH STRONG

For Congress, 4th District,
THOMAS B. BUTLER

For Sheriff
DAVID D. WILDMAN.

For Senator — 11th District,
EPHRAIM MOSS WHITE

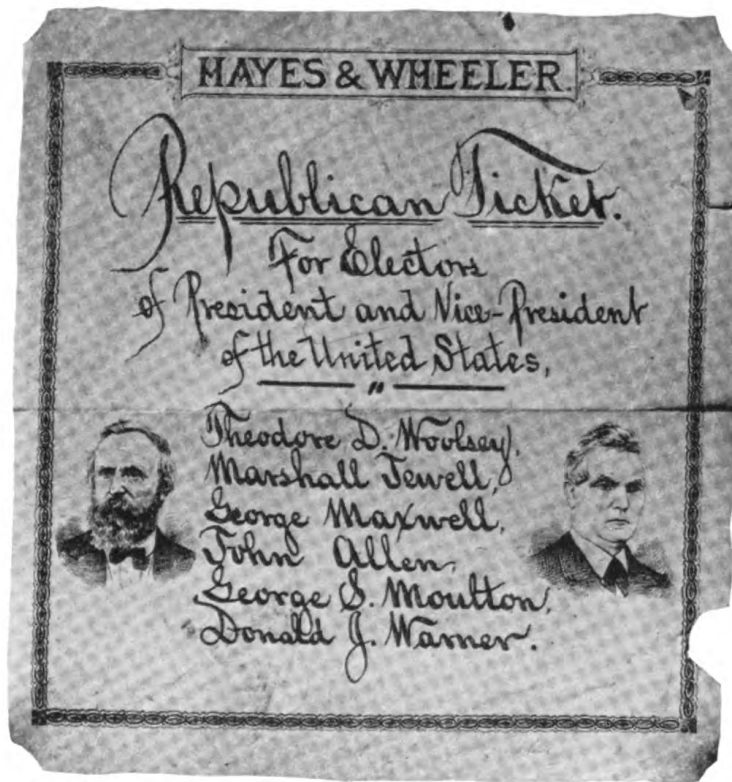
For Judge of Probate,
Ebenezer Hawley

For Justices of the Peace

Harvey Smith
Thaddeus Keeler
Matthew Seymour
Benjamin D. Norris
Timothy Jones
Benjamin K. Northrop
Samuel Scott
Hezekiah Scott

Assembly

Russell B. Keeler
Robert C. Edmonds
Seth Mead
Gamaliel N. Benedict



RIDGEFIELD PROBATE DISTRICT.

Ridgefield from the time of its settlement until May, 1728, was a part of the Fairfield Probate District. From 1728 to 1746 it was in the Stamford District. In 1746 it was placed in the Danbury District, as the following record will show. At a session of the General Assembly held in New Haven, October, 1746, the following resolution was passed: "Be it enacted by the Governor, Council, and Representatives in General Court Assembled, and by the authority of the same, That the town of Ridgefield be annexed, and is hereby annexed, to the district of Danbury; any law to the contrary notwithstanding."

Ridgefield remained in the Danbury District until 1841, when a separate District Court and Probate District of Ridgefield was established. The bounds of this District are co-terminus with that of the township. Harvey Smith was the first Judge, and Smith B. Keeler the first Clerk of the Ridgefield Probate District. The first session held in the district of Ridgefield was on July 17th, 1841, and the first business transacted was the appointment of administrators to the estate of Benjamin Lynes, Samuel Lynes and Wakeman Hubbell being appointed the administrators.

The list of the Probate Judges for the District of Ridgefield is as follows:

1841	Harvey Smith	served one year
1842	William Sherwood	" two years
1844	Harvey Smith	" two years
1846	Jacob T. Haviland	" one year
1847	Harvey Smith	" one year
1848	Ebenezer Hawley	" four years
1852	Edward Couch	" two years
1854	Henry Smith, 2nd	" one year
1855	Hiram K. Scott	" fifteen years
1870	D. Smith Sholes	" one year
1871	Elijah Thomas	" two years
1873	Hiram K. Scott	" twenty years
1893	William O. Seymour	" nearly ten years
1903	Harvey P. Bissell	" seven years until Jan. 19, 1910
1910	George G. Scott	" one year
1911	Cyrus A. Cornen, Jr.	" five years
1916	George G. Knapp ¹	" nearly eight years until Sept. 16, 1924
1924	George G. Scott	" to 1927, present incumbent.

¹Deceased in office.

FIRE DISTRICT AND BOROUGH OF RIDGEFIELD

The Fire District of Ridgefield was organized April 4th, 1896, following the great fire of the winter before. William O. Seymour, Edward H. Smith and John D. Nash were elected as Fire District Committee; Hiram K. Scott, Clerk; D. Smith Sholes, Treasurer; and Sereno S. Hurlbutt, Collector.

The District remained in existence until 1901 when the Borough of Ridgefield was incorporated by the General Assembly. The following were the first officers of the Borough; Warden Phineas C. Lounsbury, Burgesses William O. Seymour, D. Smith Sholes, Samuel Keeler, Dr. Russell W. Lowe, Harvey P. Bissell, George L. Rockwell; Clerk George E. Benedict; Treasurer, William H. Beers; Collector Sereno S. Hurlbutt; Sheriff, Charles S. Nash; Assessors D. Frank Bedient, Richard W. Osborn, Ebenezer A. Hoyt; Auditors Peter McGlynn and James E. Ryan.

With the organization of the Borough and election of the officers, work was speedily begun upon the sewer which was built the same year. The following is a list of the Wardens of the Borough: 1901-1903, Phineas C. Lounsbury; 1904-1905, William O. Seymour; 1906-1907, Samuel Keeler; 1908-1909, Albert H. Storer; 1910-1913, Dr. B. Adelmair O'Bryon; 1914, D. Frank Bedient; 1915-1916, Hiram Davis; 1917, Dr. Howard P. Mansfield; 1918-1921, Hiram Davis. On May 11th, 1921, the Borough of Ridgefield was consolidated with the town. Within the lines of the old Borough is now the village district of Ridgefield.

PROPRIETORS' DEEDS.

722 deeds were given by the Proprietors to various people, beginning in 1709. The following deed was given on April 25th, 1815, and recorded the same day.

"Surveyed and laid out to CHAPMAN LEE and to his heirs and assigns Three Roods and twenty-three Rods of Land lying in Ridgefield near the Easterly and Northerly sides of the Great Swamp (so called) Bounded Southwardly by his own land; Westwardly in part by Nathan Smith's land, and in part by Highway; Northwardly by Wakeman Burritt's land, and coming to a point at the East end.

"Dated in Ridgefield this 25th day of April A. D., 1815.

"Philip B. Bradley
Benjamin Smith

Proprietor's
Committee

"Received to Record April 25 A. D. 1815 & Recorded per me

"Samuel Stebbins. Town Clerk."

It will be of interest to note that with the exception of Chapman Lee, all of the above-mentioned men were soldiers in the Revolutionary War.

THE POPULATION OF RIDGEFIELD

The population of Ridgefield according to the census taken at various times, is as follows:

1756 — 1115
 1774 — 1708
 1782 — 1697
 1790 — 1947
 1800 — 2025
 1810 — 2103
 1820 — 2301
 1830 — 2305
 1840 — 2474
 1850 — 2237
 1860 — 2213
 1870 — 1919
 1880 — 2028
 1890 — 2235
 1900 — 2626
 1910 — 3118
 1920 — 2707

REPRESENTATIVES TO LEGISLATURE

1740 James Benedict, Samuel Smith
 1741 James Benedict
 1742 James Benedict, Daniel Olmsted
 1743 James Benedict, Daniel Olmsted
 1744 James Benedict, Richard Olmsted
 1745 Timothy Keeler, Joseph Hawley
 1746 Richard Olmsted, Samuel Olmsted
 1747 Richard Olmsted, Samuel Olmsted
 1748 James Benedict, Samuel Olmsted
 1749 James Benedict, Samuel Olmsted
 1750 Samuel Olmsted, Stephen Smith
 1751 James Benedict, Samuel Olmsted
 1752 Richard Olmsted, Samuel Olmsted
 1753 Samuel Olmsted, Stephen Smith
 1754 Samuel Olmsted, Stephen Smith
 1755 Samuel Olmsted, Stephen Smith
 1756 Elijah Hawley, Samuel Olmsted
 1757 Elijah Hawley
 1758 Elijah Hawley, Samuel Olmsted, Stephen Smith
 1759 Samuel Olmsted, John Benedict, Stephen Smith
 1760 Samuel Olmsted, Stephen Smith
 1761 Samuel Olmsted, Lemuel Abbott
 1762 Samuel Olmsted, Stephen Smith

- 1763 Timothy Keeler, Samuel Olmsted
- 1764 Samuel Olmsted, Timothy Keeler, John Benedict
- 1765 Timothy Keeler, Stephen Smith
- 1766 William Lee, Nathan Olmsted
- 1767 William Lee, Nathan Olmsted, Samuel Olmsted, Stephen Smith
- 1768 Samuel Olmsted, William Lee
- 1769 Samuel Olmsted, William Lee, Colonel Philip Burr Bradley
- 1770 Samuel Olmsted, Colonel Philip Burr Bradley, Benjamin Stebbins
- 1771 William Lee, Colonel Philip Burr Bradley, Samuel Olmsted
- 1772 Colonel Philip Burr Bradley, Samuel Olmsted
- 1773 Colonel Philip Burr Bradley, Samuel Olmsted
- 1774 Colonel Philip Burr Bradley, Samuel Olmsted
- 1775 Colonel Philip Burr Bradley, Samuel Olmsted, Captain Lemuel
Morehouse
- 1776 Samuel Olmsted, Colonel Philip Burr Bradley, Stephen Smith
- 1777 William Forrester, Nathan Olmsted, John Benedict
- 1778 Nathan Olmsted, Timothy Keeler, William Forrester, S. Olmsted
- 1779 Samuel Olmsted, William Forrester, Timothy Keeler, Jr., Stephen
Norris, John Benedict
- 1780 Nathan Olmsted, John Benedict, Colonel Philip Burr Bradley, Captain
Jonah Foster, Timothy Keeler, Ichabod Doolittle
- 1781 Timothy Keeler, Ichabod Doolittle, Captain David Olmsted
- 1782 Colonel Philip Burr Bradley, Captain David Olmsted
- 1783 Colonel Philip Burr Bradley, Captain David Olmsted
- 1784 Colonel Philip Burr Bradley, Captain David Olmsted
- 1785 Colonel Philip Bradley, Captain David Olmsted
- 1786 Colonel Philip Burr Bradley, Captain David Olmsted
- 1787 Colonel Philip Burr Bradley, Captain David Olmsted
- 1788 Colonel Philip Burr Bradley, William Forrester, David Olmsted
- 1789 Colonel Philip Burr Bradley, David Olmsted, Joshua King
- 1790 Colonel Philip Burr Bradley, Joshua King
- 1791 Colonel Philip Burr Bradley, Joshua King, David Olmsted
- 1792 Joshua King, William Forrester, Amos Baker
- 1793 Joshua King, David Olmsted
- 1794 Joshua King, William Forrester
- 1795 Joshua King, David Olmsted, William Forrester
- 1796 Joshua King, William Forrester, David Olmsted
- 1797 David Olmsted, Samuel Dauchy
- 1798 Samuel Dauchy, Nathan Smith, Joshua King, David Olmsted
- 1799 Joshua King, Nathan Dauchy
- 1800 Jacob Olmsted, Eliphalet Brush, Joshua King, Job Smith
- 1801 Nathan Dauchy, Jared Olmsted
- 1802 Joshua King, Samuel Stebbins
- 1803 Samuel Stebbins, Nathan Dauchy, Jr.
- 1804 Nathan Dauchy, Jr., Timothy Keeler, Nathan Smith
- 1805 Nathan Dauchy, Nathan Smith, Job Smith, Jonathan Keeler
- 1806 Job Smith, Jonathan Keeler, Samuel Stebbins, Timothy Keeler

- 1807 Nathan Smith, Timothy Keeler, 2nd, John Jones, Jesse S. Bradley
1808 John Jones, Jesse S. Bradley, Jacob Dauchy, Timothy Keeler, 2nd
1809 Jacob Dauchy, Timothy Keeler, Nathan Dauchy, Jesse S. Bradley
1810 Nathan Dauchy, Aaron Stuart, Daniel Jones
1811 Joshua King, Gamaliel Benedict
1812 Joshua King, Benjamin Lynes, Matthew Keeler, Nathan Dauchy
1813 Nathan Smith, Samuel Stebbins
1814 Daniel Jones, Seth Bouton, Jesse S. Bradley, Jeremiah Mead
1815 Jesse S. Bradley, Jeremiah Mead, SPECIAL SESSION, Abner Gilbert
Jr., Nathan Dauchy
1816 Joshua King, Timothy Keeler, William Hawley
1817 William Hawley, Gamaliel Benedict, Matthew Keeler
1818 Eliphalet Brush, Jabez M. Gilbert
1819 Gamaliel Benedict, Bradley Hull
1820 Benjamin Lynes, Elijah Hawley
1821 Benjamin Lynes, Aaron Lee
1822 Aaron Lee, Lot Forrester
1823 Aaron Lee, Riah Nash
1824 William Hawley, Richard Randall
1825 John F. King, William Crocker
1826 Jesse S. Bradley, John F. King
1827 Jesse S. Bradley, Jabez M. Gilbert
1828 Jabez M. Gilbert, Lot Forrester
1829 Jesse S. Bradley, Aaron Lee
1830 Aaron Lee, Ebenezer Hawley
1831 Ebenezer Hawley, Gamaliel N. Benedict
1832 Walter Dauchy, Thomas St. John
1833 Thomas St. John, William Sherwood
1834 Ebenezer Hawley, Gamaliel N. Benedict
1835 Aaron Lee, Joseph C. Sears
1836 Aaron Lee, Joseph C. Sears
1837 Czar Jones, Major Boughton
1838 Czar Jones, Major Boughton
1839 Thaddeus Keeler, 2nd, Eli Rockwell
1840 Keeler Dauchy, Eli Rockwell
1841 William Lee, Samuel S. Olmstead
1842 William Lee, Joseph C. Sears
1843 Albin Jennings, Ebenezer Hawley
1844 Ebenezer Hawley, Major Boughton
1845 Harvey Smith, Hezekiah Scott
1846 Chauncey Olmstead, Nehemiah Keeler
1847 Abijah Resseguie, Benjamin D. Norris
1848 George Keeler, Francis A. Rockwell
1849 David Scott, Richard L. Gilbert
1850 Hiram K. Scott, David Hurlburt
1851 Russell B. Keeler, Robert C. Edmonds
1852 Harvey K. Smith, James H. Smith

- 1853 Edward Williams, Samuel M. Smith
 1854 Samuel S. Olmstead, Timothy Jones
 1855 Jesse S. Bradley, Charles Smith, Jr.
 1856 William Howe, William M. Lynes
 1857 Benjamin K. Northrop, Hiram O. Nash
 1858 Jacob Dauchy, Ebenezer Jones
 1859 Edward H. Smith, Ebenezer B. Sanford
 1860 William Lee, John T. Rockwell
 1861 Samuel Scott, Benjamin K. Northrop
 1862 Charles Smith, 2nd, Jared N. Olmstead
 1863 Jared N. Olmstead, Charles Smith, 2nd
 1864 Abner Gilbert, Samuel S. St. John
 1865 Hiram O. Nash, Ebenezer W. Keeler
 1866 Albert Scott, Charles W. Slawson
 1867 Henry Smith, Francis A. Rockwell
 1868 William O. Seymour, George Boughton
 1869 William O. Seymour, Harvey K. Smith
 1870 Daniel L. Adams, Daniel Hunt
 1871 Peter P. Cornen, John S. Keeler
 1872 Elijah L. Thomas, George Boughton
 1873 Harvey K. Smith, Edward H. Smith
 1874 Phineas C. Lounsbury, Lewis C. Seymour
 1875 Nathan Lounsbury, Ira S. Keeler
 1876 Samuel J. Barlow, Simon Couch
 1877 Aaron W. Lee, Matthew Betts
 1878 Sereno S. Hurlburt, David H. Valden
 1879 Benjamin K. Northrop, Charles B. Northrop
 1880 Aaron W. Lee, John D. Nash
 1881 Jacob L. Dauchy, Larmon W. Abbott
 1882 Edward J. Couch, Lewis E. Smith
 1883 Albert N. Thomas, Charles B. Morehouse, Jr.
 1884 Joel L. Rockwell, William C. Loder
 1885 Francis H. Stalford, William E. Palmer
 1886 Nathan Couch, Linus O. Northrop
 1887 John F. Holmes, Elbridge G. Northrop
 BEGINNING OF BIENNIAL SESSIONS
 1888 Dr. Wm. S. Todd, Elias G. Hoyt
 1890 Russell R. Keeler, George H. Weed
 1892 John Brophy, William C. Barhite
 1894 Milan H. Mead, Edwin P. White
 1896 Louis L. Valden, Hiram J. Kellogg
 1898 John P. Keeler, Ebenezer A. Hoyt
 1900 Bradley W. Sanford, Harvey P. Bissell
 1902 John Brophy, George I. Abbott
 1904 George L. Rockwell, Gilbert B. Burr
 1906 George H. Becker, Benjamin S. Selleck
 1908 Charles B. Northrop, Hiram Davis

- 1910 William O. Seymour, Samuel A. Coe
- 1911 D. Frank Bedient, (Vice William O. Seymour, deceased)
- 1912 Samuel S. Denton, D. Frank Bedient
- 1914 James E. Ryan, James H. Perry
- 1916 James E. Ryan, Jesse L. Benedict
- 1918 Jesse L. Benedict, William C. Barhite
- 1920 Seth Low Pierrepont, William C. Barhite
- 1922 Seth Low Pierrepont, Thomas W. Ryan
- 1924 Seth Low Pierrepont, Ethel McGlynn Ryan
- 1926 Mortimer C. Keeler, Ethel McGlynn Ryan

SELECTMEN

Benjamin Willson, Milford Samuel Smith, Joseph Benedict, 1715; Richard Osburn, Norwalk Samuel Smith, Benjamin Burt, 1716; Joshua Lobdell, James Benedict, Henry Whitne, 1717; Lieutenant Samuel Saint John, Milford Samuel Smith, Daniel Olmsted, 1718; Benjamin Willson, Joseph Keeler, David Scott, 1719; Richard Osborn, Norwalk Samuel Smith, Benjamin Burt, 1720; Richard Osborn, Daniel Olmsted, Norwalk Samuel Smith, 1721; Joseph Keeler, Richard Olmsted, James Benedict, 1722; Benjamin Willson, Benjamin Benedict, Thomas Hyatt, 1723; Lieutenant Samuel St. John, Lieutenant Ebenezer Smith, Joshua Lobdell, Benjamin Hayt, James Northrup, 1724; Deacon Thomas Smith, Benjamin Benedict, Joseph Benedict, 1725; Deacon Thomas Smith, Benjamin Benedict, Joseph Benedict, 1726; Captain Saint John, Benjamin Willson, Richard Olmsted, 1727; Joseph Lees, Milford Samuel Smith, Jonah Smith, 1728; James Northrop, Gamaliel Northrop, Deacon Thomas Smith, 1729; Lieutenant Benjamin Benedict, Sargent Daniel Olmsted, Benjamin Hayt, 1730; Milford Samuel Smith, Jonah Keeler, Benjamin Stebbins, 1731; Norwalk Samuel Smith, Timothy Keeler, Nathan St. John, 1732; Deacon Smith, Matthew Seamore, Benjamin Stebbins, 1733; Norwalk Samuel Smith, Gamaliel Northrop, Benjamin Benedict, 1734; Captain Benjamin Benedict, Sargent Richard Olmsted, Sargent Benjamin Hayt, 1735; Lieutenant Ebenezer Smith, Benjamin Willson, Sargent Joseph Lees, 1736; Sargent Samuel Smith, Captain Daniel Olmsted, Benjamin Rockwell, 1737; Thomas Hyatt, Norwalk Samuel Smith, Matthew Seamore, 1738; Nathan Saint John, Peter Burr, Nathan Willson, 1739; Peter Burr, Ebenezer Smith, Esq., Ensign Benjamin Hayt, 1740; Lieutenant Richard Olmsted, Sargent Daniel Sherwood, Matthew Benedict, 1741; Captain Benjamin Benedict, Milford Samuel Smith, Nathan St. John, 1742; Thomas Hyatt, Nathan St. John, Nathan Willson, 1743; Jonah Smith, Lieutenant Benjamin Hayt, Ensign Joseph Hawley, 1744; Lieutenant Matthew Benedict, Samuel Smith 3rd, Norwalk Samuel Smith, 1745; Milford Samuel Smith, Thomas Hyatt, James Northrup, 1746; Benjamin Stebbins, Samuel Olmstead, Joseph Hawley, 1747; James Benedict, Captain Nathan Benedict, Sargent Nathan Olmstead, 1748; Sargent Matthew Seamore, Captain Matthew Benedict, Samuel Smith, 3rd,

1749; Timothy Benedict, Captain Richard Olmstead, Lieutenant Jonah Smith, 1750; Captain Daniel Olmsted, Sargent James Northrup, Lieutenant John Smith, 1751; Matthew Benedict, Sargent Matthew Seamore, Samuel Olmstead, 1752; Jonathan Olmstead, Lieutenant Jonah Smith, Timothy Keeler, 1753; Benjamin Stebbins, Matthew Benedict, Stephen Smith, 1754; John Rockwell, Matthew Seymour, Samuel Olmstead, 1755; Benjamin Stebbins, Jr., Nathan Olmsted, Thomas Smith, 1756; Timothy Keeler, Vivus Dauchy, Samuel Gates, 1757; Samuel Olmsted, Esq., Recompence Thomas, Matthew Seamore, 1758; Stephen Smith, Jonah Smith, Joseph Northrop, Jr., 1759; Timothy Keeler, Jacob Smith, Lemuel Abbott, 1760; Captain Timothy Benedict, Captain Vivus Dauchy, Ambrose Olmsted, 1761; Jabesh Smith, Vivus Dauchy, Ambrose Olmsted, 1762; Jonah Foster, John Smith, Thomas Smith, 1763; Jonah Foster, John Smith, Thomas Smith, 1764; Jacob Jones, Samuel Keeler, Timothy Keeler, 1765; Timothy Keeler, Matthew Seymour, Recompence Thomas, Thomas Smith, 1766; Timothy Benedict, Philip Burr Bradley, Benjamin Stebbins, 1767; Timothy Benedict, Benjamin Stebbins, Philip Burr Bradley, 1768; Timothy Benedict, Philip Burr Bradley, Benjamin Stebbins, 1769; Timothy Keeler, John Benedict, Lemuel Keeler, 1770; Jacob Smith, Benjamin Hoyt, John Abbott, 1771; Ezekiel Wilson, James Scott, Samuel Gates, 1772; James Scott, Ezekiel Wilson, Samuel Gates, 1773; Lemuel Abbott, Ezekiel Wilson, John Benedict, 1774; Nathan Olmsted, Timothy Keeler, Stephen Smith, Daniel Coley, William Forrester, 1775; Nathan Olmstead, Timothy Keeler, Stephen Smith, Daniel Coley, William Forrester, 1776; William Forrester, John Benedict, Ichabod Doolittle, Timothy Keeler, 2nd, Samuel Olmstead, David Scott, 1777; Samuel Smith, Ichabod Doolittle, David Scott, Stephen Norris, Aaron Northrop, 1778; Samuel Smith, James Scott, Timothy Keeler, William Forrester, Elihu Deforest, 1779; Aaron Northrop, Silas Hull, Samuel Gates, 1780; Benjamin Smith, Stephen Norris, Samuel Olmsted, Daniel Rockwell, Nathan Olmsted, 1781; Benjamin Smith, Stephen Norris, Daniel Rockwell, Nathan Olmstead, Samuel Olmsted, 1782; Captain Nathan Dauchy, Captain Ebenezer Jones, Captain David Olmstead, Thomas St. John, Captain Jonah Foster, 1783; Captain Nathan Dauchy, Captain Ebenezer Jones, Captain Jonah Foster, Captain Daniel Olmsted, Thomas St. John, 1784; Captain Jonah Keeler, Captain Nathan Dauchy, Lieutenant Ezekiel Wilson, 1785; Nathan Smith, Benjamin Stebbins, Daniel Coley, 1786; Benjamin Stebbins, Daniel Coley, Nathan Smith, 1787. It was voted that the meeting will add to the number of selectmen for the year ensuing, Benjamin Smith and Thomas St. John. Benjamin Smith, Timothy Keeler, Jr., Thomas St. John, Captain Nathan Dauchy, Abraham Rockwell, 1788; Lieutenant Joshua King, Daniel Lee, Captain Henry Whitney, 1789; Lieutenant Joshua King, Daniel Lee, Captain Henry Whitney, 1790; Lieutenant Joshua King, Nathan Smith, Captain Henry Whitney, 1791; Joshua King, Nathan Smith, Captain Henry Whitney, 1792; Joshua King, Nathan Smith, Captain Henry Whitney, 1793; Joshua King, Henry Whitney, Nathan Smith, 1794; Joshua King, Nathan Smith, Henry Whitney, Timothy Keeler, 1795; Nathan Smith, Timothy Keeler, 2nd, Henry Whitney, Samuel Dauchy, 1796; Job Smith, Timothy Keeler,

Samuel Dauchy, Eliphalet Brush, 1797; Jasper Mead, Abner Gilbert, Eliphalet Brush, 1798; Jasper Mead, Abner Gilbert, Eliphalet Brush, 1799.

Jasper Mead, Riah Nash, Benjamin Lynes, 1800; Riah Nash, Nathan Dauchy, Benjamin Smith, Benjamin Lynes, Uriah Deforest, Joshua King, 1801; Nathan Dauchy, Matthew Keeler, Job Smith, Uriah Deforest, Timothy Keeler, 2nd, 1802; Nathan Dauchy, Matthew Keeler, Job Smith, Uriah Deforest, Timothy Keeler, 2nd, 1803; Nathan Dauchy, Job Smith, Matthew Keeler, Uriah Deforest, Timothy Keeler, 2nd, 1804; Job Smith, Isaac Olmsted, Wakeman Burritt, Timothy Keeler, 2nd, Thomas Boughton, 1805; Job Smith, Isaac Olmsted, Wakeman Burritt, Thomas Boughton, Samuel St. John, 1806; Jacob Dauchy, Jeremiah Mead, Jonah Keeler, Uriah Birchard, Samuel A. Camp, 1807; Jacob Dauchy, Jeremiah Mead, Jonah Keeler, Uriah Birchard, Samuel A. Camp, 1808; Aaron Stuart, Jeremiah Smith, Jared Olmsted, Elisha Alvord, Benjamin Barberry, 1809; Jared Olmsted, Jeremiah Smith, David Perry, Samuel St. John, Philander Camp, 1810; David Perry, Joshua King, Matthew Keeler, Abner Gilbert, Jonah Foster, Gamaliel Benedict, Caleb Abbott, 1811; Nathan Dauchy, Elisha Hawley, Amos Smith, Ebenezer Hoyt, Thomas Boughton, Runa Rockwell, Obil Rockwell, 1812; Nathan Dauchy, Amos Smith, Ebenezer Hoyt, Philip Bradley, Uriah Birchard, Matthias Hubbell, Smith Starr, 1813; Nathan Dauchy, Amos Smith, Ebenezer Hoyt, Philip Bradley, Matthew Hubbell, Smith Starr, Thomas St. John, 2nd, 1814; Nathan Dauchy, Josiah B. Benedict, Philip Bradley, Elijah Hawley, Obil Rockwell, Lot Forrester, Thomas Rockwell, 1815; Nathan Dauchy, Philip Bradley, Josiah B. Benedict, Ebenezer Hawley, Obil Rockwell, Lot Forrester, Stephen C. Lynes, Silas Abbott, Runa Rockwell, 1816; Joshua King, Elijah Hawley, Jabez M. Gilbert, Aaron Lee, Stephen C. Lynes, Silas Abbott, Caleb Abbott, 1817; Joshua King, Elijah Hawley, Jabez M. Gilbert, Stephen C. Lynes, Abijah Abbott, Isaiah Birchard, 1818; Elijah Hawley, Jabez M. Gilbert, Joshua King, Israel Mead, Abijah Abbott, Thomas Rockwell, Clark Benedict, 1819; Elijah Hawley, Samuel Smith, Abner Gilbert, Israel Mead, Thomas Rockwell, Clark Benedict, 1820; Samuel Smith, 2nd, Abner Gilbert, Israel Mead, Jesse S. Bradley, William Hawley, Abijah Hyatt, Eliphalet Brush, Caleb Abbott, Abijah King, 1821; Abner Gilbert, Jesse S. Bradley, Wm. Hawley, Abijah Hyatt, Eliphalet Brush, Caleb Abbott, Abijah King, 1822; Abner Gilbert, Jesse S. Bradley, William Hawley, Abijah Hyatt, Eliphalet Brush, Caleb Abbott, Abijah King, 1823; Abner Gilbert, Jesse S. Bradley, William Hawley, Abijah Hyatt, Eliphalet Brush, Caleb Abbott, Abijah King, 1824; Abner Gilbert, Jesse S. Bradley, William Hawley, Abijah Hyatt, Eliphalet Brush, Caleb Abbott, Abijah King, 1825; Jabez M. Gilbert, Thaddeus Keeler, 2nd, Ebenezer Hawley, Charles I. Hyatt, James Sears, Joseph Field, Zeri Rockwell, 1826; Jabez M. Gilbert, Thaddeus Keeler, 2nd, Ebenezer Hawley, Samuel St. John, 2nd, James Sears, Joseph Field, Zeri Rockwell, 1827; Jabez M. Gilbert, Ebenezer Hawley, Amos Smith, Judson T. Sturges, Abijah Abbott, 1828; Jabez M. Gilbert, Ebenezer Hawley, Amos Smith, Samuel Hawley, Gamaliel N. Benedict, Major Boughton, Barnabas Allen, 1829; Ebenezer Hawley, Samuel Hawley, Stephen Olmsted, David Scott,

Gamaliel N. Benedict, Major Boughton, James Sears, 1830; Samuel Hawley, David Scott, William Lee, Elijah Hawley, James Sears, Joseph Sears, 1831; Charles Nash, James Stuart, Nathan Smith, Albin Jennings, Major Boughton, Lewis Sears, Thomas St. John, 1832; Charles Nash, Albin Jennings, James Stuart, Nathan Smith, Abijah Abbott, Thomas Rockwell, 1833; Nathan Smith, Reed Haviland, Albin Jennings, Charles Nash, Lewis Sherwood, Thomas St. John, William Howe, Major Boughton, William Sherwood, 1834; Daniel Scott, Jared Nash, Joseph Field, Major Boughton, Thomas St. John, 1835; David Scott, Jared Nash, Abijah Resseguie, Smith B. Keeler, Major Boughton, William Howe, Elias Birchard, 1836; David Scott, Harvey Smith, Czar Jones, Russell B. Keeler, William Howe, Major Boughton, Lewis Sears, 1837; David Scott, Harvey Smith, Czar Jones, Russell B. Keeler, William Howe, Major Boughton, Lewis Sears, 1838; Russell B. Keeler, Samuel S. Olmstead, Seth Smith, Hugh S. Banks, Zeri Rockwell, Daniel Sanford, William Barhite, 1839; Harvey Smith, Seth Smith, Hugh S. Banks, Samuel S. Olmstead, Zeri Rockwell, William Howe, Elias Birchard, 1840; Harvey Smith, Hugh S. Banks, Seth Smith, Lewis Slauson, William Howe, Albert Brush, Elias Birchard, 1841; Hezekiah Scott, Lewis Sherwood, Albin Jennings, Ransom Brothwell, Thomas St. John, 1842; Hezekiah Scott, Albin Jennings, Czar Jones, Hanford Selleck, William Howe, David Sanford, Eli Rockwell, 1843; Hezekiah Scott, Albin Jennings, Czar Jones, Hanford Selleck, William Howe, David Sanford, Eli Rockwell, 1844; Hezekiah Scott, Albin Jennings, Albert Brush, Thomas St. John, Joseph C. Sears, George Keeler, Ebenezer Hawley, 1845; Hezekiah Scott, Albin Jennings, George Keeler, David Hanford, William M. Lynes, 1846; Albin Jennings, George Keeler, Harvey Smith, William M. Lynes, Daniel Newcomb, 1847; George Keeler, Charles Nash, Jesse L. Benedict, Eli Rockwell, David Hanford, 1848; George Keeler, Charles Nash, Jesse L. Benedict, Eli Rockwell, David Hanford, 1849; Charles Nash, Lewis H. Bailey, Russell B. Keeler, Eli Rockwell, David Hanford, 1850; Edward Williams, Samuel M. Smith, Timothy Smith, Allen Rundle, 1851; Elias N. Glover, Hull Keeler, Hiram O. Nash, Jesse S. Bradley, Allen Rundle, 1852; Elias N. Glover, Hull Keeler, Hiram O. Nash, Jesse S. Bradley, Allen Rundle, 1853; Ebenezer Hawley, Charles Smith, Jr., John W. Miller, Martin W. Bassett, William M. Lynes, 1854; Ebenezer Hawley, Gamaliel N. Benedict, Burr Keeler, John W. Miller, William M. Lynes, 1855; Burr Keeler, John W. Miller, Benjamin Lee, William M. Lynes, Isaac Osborne, 1856; George Keeler, Hiram O. Nash, Amos Smith, James E. Hoyt, William Selleck, 1857; Hiram O. Nash, Benjamin K. Northrop, Charles W. Slawson, Smith Keeler, Timothy Smith, 1858; Russell B. Keeler, Jacob Dauchy, Smith Keeler, 1859; Ebenezer Hawley, Amos Smith, Smith Keeler, 1860; Ebenezer Hawley, Amos Smith, Smith Keeler, 1861; Ebenezer Hawley, Amos Smith, Smith Keeler, 1862; Ebenezer Hawley, Smith Keeler, Philip L. Barhite, David C. Keeler, Daniel Hunt, 1863; William Lee, Timothy Jones, William W. Beers, Samuel S. St. John, George Boughton, 1864; William Lee, Hiram O. Nash, Samuel Scott, Samuel S. St. John, George Boughton, 1865; Samuel M. Smith, Daniel Hunt, Smith Keeler, 1866; Benjamin K. Northrop, Jared

N. Olmstead, George Boughton, 1867; Benjamin K. Northrop, Jared N. Olmstead, Allen Rundle, 1868; Benjamin K. Northrop, William R. Hoyt, Allen Rundle, 1869; Benjamin K. Northrop, William R. Hoyt, Allen Rundle, 1870; Peter P. Cornen, elected October second, William W. Seymour 2nd and Frank R. Hunt, elected October fourteenth at an adjourned meeting as vote for second selectman was a tie, 1871.

William W. Seymour, 2nd, William R. Hoyt, Samuel S. St. John, 1872; Harvey Smith, James H. Hoyt, Benjamin D. Norris, 1873; Samuel M. Smith, Edward Williams, Henry Barhite, 1874; Samuel M. Smith, Ebenezer W. Keeler, George Boughton, 1875; Samuel M. Smith, Ebenezer W. Keeler, George Boughton, 1876; Ebenezer W. Keeler, John D. Nash, Edward H. Smith, 1877; Ebenezer W. Keeler, John D. Nash, James H. Hoyt, 1878; Ebenezer W. Keeler, John D. Nash, James H. Hoyt, 1879; Aaron W. Lee, Edwin P. White, Edward H. Smith, 1880; Aaron W. Lee, Edward H. Smith, Edward P. White, 1881; Ebenezer W. Keeler, Francis H. Stalford, James H. Hoyt, 1882; Ebenezer W. Keeler, Francis H. Stalford, Henry M. Smith, 1883; Ebenezer W. Keeler, John P. Keeler, William H. Gilbert, 1884; Ira S. Keeler, John P. Keeler, William H. Gilbert, 1885; Ebenezer W. Keeler, George Boughton, William H. Gilbert, 1886; Ebenezer W. Keeler, Hiram J. Kellogg, William H. Gilbert, 1887; Hiram J. Kellogg, William H. Gilbert, Howard E. Mead, 1888; Ebenezer W. Keeler, Samuel A. Coe, Howard E. Mead, 1889; Ebenezer W. Keeler, Louis L. Valden, Howard E. Mead, 1890; Richard W. Keeler, George G. Rider, Howard E. Mead, 1891; Richard W. Keeler, Bradley W. Sanford, Henry L. Hoyt, 1892; Fred C. Lee, Bradley W. Sanford, Henry L. Hoyt, 1893; John Brophy, Samuel A. Coe, Henry L. Hoyt, 1894; John Brophy, Samuel A. Coe, Henry L. Hoyt, 1895; John Brophy, Samuel A. Coe, George A. Knox, 1896; John Brophy, Samuel A. Coe, George A. Knox, 1897; John Brophy, Samuel A. Coe, George A. Knox, 1898; John Brophy, Samuel A. Coe, George A. Knox, 1899.

John Brophy, Samuel A. Coe, George A. Knox, 1900; John Brophy, Samuel A. Coe, Howard E. Mead, 1901; Richard W. Keeler, Samuel A. Coe, Howard E. Mead, 1902; Richard W. Keeler, Ebenezer A. Hoyt, Howard E. Mead, 1903; Joseph W. Hibbart, Hiram K. Scott, Jr., Frederick S. Bates, 1904; Joseph W. Hibbart, Bradley W. Sanford, Frederick S. Bates, 1906; George H. Whitlock, Bradley W. Sanford, Frederick S. Bates, 1907; Benjamin F. Crouchley, Samuel Keeler, Bradley W. Sanford, 1908; Benjamin F. Crouchley, Bradley W. Sanford, Charles B. Northrop, 1909; Benjamin F. Crouchley, Eldridge N. Bailey, Charles B. Northrop, 1910; Eldridge N. Bailey, Benjamin F. Crouchley, Charles B. Northrop, 1911; Charles B. Northrop, Benjamin F. Crouchley, Eldridge N. Bailey, 1912; Eldridge N. Bailey, Benjamin F. Crouchley, Charles B. Northrop, 1913; Eldridge N. Bailey, Charles B. Northrop, Benjamin F. Crouchley, 1914; Eldridge N. Bailey, Howard S. Hibbart, Benjamin F. Crouchley, 1915; Orville W. Holmes, Benjamin F. Crouchley, Howard S. Hibbart, 1916; Orville W. Holmes, Howard S. Hibbart, Frederick W. Olmstead, 1917; Orville W. Holmes, Howard S. Hibbart, Michael McGlynn, 1918; Eldridge N. Bailey,

Howard S. Hibbart, Michael McGlynn, 1919; Eldridge N. Bailey, Joseph W. Hibbart, Michael McGlynn, 1920; Eldridge N. Bailey, Joseph W. Hibbart, Michael McGlynn, 1921; Eldridge N. Bailey, Joseph W. Hibbart, Michael McGlynn, 1922; Eldridge N. Bailey, Joseph W. Hibbart, Michael McGlynn, 1923; Eldridge N. Bailey, Joseph W. Hibbart, Michael McGlynn, 1924; Eldridge N. Bailey, Joseph W. Hibbart, Michael McGlynn, Charles F. Palmer vice Joseph W. Hibbart, deceased, 1925; Winthrop E. Rockwell, Charles F. Palmer, Willis S. Gilbert, 1926.

TOWN CLERKS

John Copp, 1708-1714. During this period the name of Richard Olmsted is signed as Town Clerk, also as Recorder, upon a few of the entries in the first record book. Thomas Hawley 1714-1735; Timothy Keeler 1735-1747; Stephen Smith, 1747-1785; Benjamin Smith, 1785-1800; Samuel Stebbins, 1800-1836; Nathan Smith, 1836-1852; Hiram K. Scott, 1852-1861; Lewis H. Bailey, 1861-1862; Henry Smith, 2nd, 1862-1863; Albert N. Thomas, 1863-1867; Elijah L. Thomas, 1867-1872; Hiram K. Scott, 1872-1909; Hiram K. Scott, Jr., Nov. 15, 1909-Jan. 3, 1910; Cyrus A. Cornen, Jr., 1910-1916; Roland L. Gilbert, June 28, 1916-Oct. 2, 1916; George G. Knapp, 1916-Sept. 16, 1924; George G. Scott, Sept. 17, 1924-1927.

Seventeen Town Clerks have served Ridgefield since its beginning to the present writing, 1927. The records show that men of unusual ability have filled these offices. The written documents of many of the officials show penmanship difficult to approach in neatness and style even at the present day, though for over a hundred years a goose-quill pen was used. Of the seventeen, the signature of Colonel Hiram K. Scott displays the most striking paraph. Many of the documents recorded by Timothy Keeler are ornamented around the edges with curious designs, as checker-board squares, pigeon wings, scrolls, flowers and various other figures. Benjamin Smith in affixing his name to deeds and other documents always abbreviated his first name, signing himself "Ben Smith."

TOWN TREASURERS

Stephen Smith, 1746-1785; Benjamin Smith, 1785-1797; Nathan Smith, 1797-1802; Thaddeus Keeler, 2nd, 1802-1803; Nathan Smith, 1803-1810; William Hawley, 1810-1812; Jonathan Keeler, 1812-1813; Thaddeus Keeler, 2nd, 1813-1817; Richard Randall, 1817-1836; Thaddeus Keeler, 2nd, 1836-1837; Smith B. Keeler, 1837-1842; Keeler Dauchy, 1842-1852; Charles Smith, Jr., 1852-1857; Samuel S. Olmstead, 1857-1858; George W. Gorham, 1858-1861; Ebenezer Jones, 1861-1872; Lewis H. Bailey, 1872-1874; Lewis C. Seymour, 1874-1901; George L. Rockwell, 1901; Frederick W. Olmstead, 1901-1909; Cyrus A. Cornen, Jr., 1909-1910; George G. Knapp, 1910-1917; Jesse L. Benedict, 1917-1927.

FAMILY OF REV. JONATHAN INGERSOLL

Reverend Jonathan Ingersoll died Oct. 2, 1778, in his 65th year. His wife Dorcas died Sept. 29, 1811, in her 86th year. They had ten children as follows:

Sarah	born Oct.	28,	1741
Dorcas	" Oct.	15,	1743
Jonathan	" Apr.	16,	1747
Mary	" Dec.	20,	1748
Abigail	" May	7,	1751
Joseph	" Aug.	11,	1753
Hannah	" Apr.	9,	1756
Esther	" Aug.	10,	1760
Moss	" June	9,	1763,
Anne	" Apr.	5,	1765, married Lt. Joshua King.

GRACE INGERSOLL

Jonathan Ingersoll, son of Reverend Jonathan Ingersoll, was born in Ridgefield April 16, 1747. He married Miss Isaacs of Ridgefield and settled in New Haven where he attained prominence in his profession, the law.

He held various responsible positions, becoming a Judge of the Superior Court and at the time of his death, January 12th, 1823, was Lieutenant Governor of the State having served six years and eight months in that office.

Judge Ingersoll had a large family and the attention of the reader is called to his daughter Grace. Mr. Goodrich in his "Recollections of a Life-time," tells us of this remarkable family.

Of the sons he says, "the names of the former are honorably recorded in the official annals of their native state — nay, of the United States.

The daughters were distinguished for personal attractions and refined accomplishments. One of them claims special notice — Grace Ingersoll: how beautiful the name, how suggestive of what she was in mind, in person, in character! In my boyhood days these New Haven Ingersolls came to Ridgefield occasionally, especially in summer, to visit relations there. Grace was tall and slender, yet fully rounded, with rich, dark hair, and large Spanish eyes — now seeming blue and now black, and changing with the objects on which she looked, or the play of emotions within her breast. In complexion she was a brunette, yet with a melting glow in her cheek, as if she had stolen from the sun the generous hues which are reserved for the finest of fruit and flowers. Her beauty was in fact so striking — at once so superb and so conciliating — that I was both awed and fascinated by her."

In 1806 Grace Ingersoll married M. Grellet, a Frenchman of high social position who had come to New York on important business matters.

They met in New York City and "from the first view of that fair lady M. Grellet was a doomed man."

Soon after the marriage the happy couple sailed for France. At the Court of Napoleon Madame Grellet "became a celebrity in the court circles, and always maintained a pre-eminence, alike for beauty of person, grace of manners, and delicacy and dignity of character."

Grief entered the life of M. Grellet, as his beautiful wife was stricken with a cold which developed into pleurisy, and at the age of twenty-five "she descended to the tomb," leaving two lovely daughters, who with their father returned to their former home in the south of France.

KING FAMILY

Lieutenant Joshua King was born at Braintree, Colony of Massachusetts Bay, November 24th, 1758. He was only a boy when he entered the army of the Revolution, and he enlisted in Sheldon's Regiment of Dragoons. He was made a cornet and afterwards a lieutenant in which capacity he served during the war. He was stationed along the Hudson River and the Connecticut line, and with his regiment was a participant in the siege of Yorktown and the capture of Cornwallis. After the war, he married Anne, the daughter of Reverend Jonathan and Dorcas (Moss) Ingersoll, and settled in Ridgefield. This was in 1783, and the same year he engaged in business in company with Lieutenant James Dole, a companion in the Dragoons. For fifteen terms, he was a member of the Assembly, and in 1818 he was elected a member to the state convention which formed the state constitution in that year. General King died August 13th, 1839. The children of this couple were as follows: Catherine, married to William Hawley of Ridgefield; Frances, married to Reverend William Neill, D. D., of Philadelphia, died October 1832; Sophia, married to William McHarg of Albany, died March 1848; John Francis, not married, born June 30, 1792, died 1838; Charles Clark, not married, died July, 1854; Rufus H., married to Miss Laverty of New York and settled at Albany; Joshua Ingersoll not married, twice state senator, resided in the family mansion at Ridgefield; Anna Maria, married to Elisha W. Skinner of Albany; Mary Ann, died November 1828; Grace.

The above sketch is taken in part from "Recollections of a Lifetime" by Mr. Goodrich.

THE DAUCHY FAMILY

Vivus Dauchy was born in France in 1707, and came to New Rochelle, New York, about 1725. He was married three times:

Rachel Wallace	born Feb. 1711 died 1748
Hannah Sherwood	born 1712 died 1754
Mary Keeler Olmstead	born 1725 died 1816



MADAME GRELLET, GRACE INGERSOLL
at the Court of Napoleon.

Children of Vivus Dauchy

James	born 1734	died	
Mary	" 1736	"	
Vivus	" 1738	"	in French and Indian War
John	" 1741	"	1809
Elizabeth	" 1742	"	
Philip	" 1744	"	1822
Nathan	" 1747	"	1824
Daniel	" 1752	"	1807
Jeremiah	" 1755	"	1823
Thomas	" 1757	"	
Vivus	" 1759	"	
Mary	" 1764	"	
Jacob	" 1768	"	1857

Nathan Dauchy married Mary Smith (1750-1837)

Children of Nathan and Mary Dauchy

Samuel	1769-1800
Sarah	1771-1773
Nathan	1773-1860
Polly	1775-1778
Jeremiah	1777-1778
Jeremiah	1779-1850
Polly	1779-1853
Electa	1782-1822
Almira	1786-1824

Samuel Dauchy married Mary Bradley (1766-1805)

Delia	1790-1864
Philo	1791-1873
Charlotte	1793-1856
Burr	1796-1866
Maria	1797-1799
Samuel	1800-1859

THE BEERS FAMILY

The Beers family is traced to the parish of Westcliffe, County Kent, England, the place of their domicile having been Bere's, or Byer's Court. William de Bere, of Bere's Court, was bailiff at Dover, about 1275, and Nicholas de Bere held the manor of Bere's Court in the 20th year of the reign of Henry III. Of this family was Roger Byer, of Bere, who died in the reign of Queen Mary. His son, John Beer, founded four almshouses at Dartford, and devised his mansion to his eldest son Henry.

The first ancestor of the American Branch is Martin Bere or Beers, who had his seat in Rochester, County Kent, and was living in 1486. He married a daughter of Thomas Nysell, of Wrotham, England. The line is then through his son John, the latter's son James, his son John, who married Mary Selby of Yorkshire. Their children were John, Samuel, Richard, born in 1607, known as Captain Richard, who came to America in 1635, and settled at Watertown, Massachusetts. Captain Richard Beers commanded a company in several battles with the Pequot Indians, and was killed by the latter in 1675; James and Mary.

James, the next in line was a mariner; married Hester _____, and they had two sons, Anthony and James, who came to America in 1635. James settled in Fairfield, Connecticut, in 1657, and was in Greenfield, Massachusetts in 1661. He died in 1694. Anthony Beers, son of James (2) Beers, was the American founder of the Beers family. He was a native of Gravesend, England, and arrived in America in 1635 with his Uncle Richard and his brother James. In 1655 he was in Roxbury, Massachusetts, and moved to Fairfield in 1658. He was a mariner and lost his life at sea in 1676. His son Ephraim was born July 5, 1648 at Watertown, Massachusetts, and removed to Fairfield and died there in 1759. His son Daniel was born in Fairfield in 1735, and lived in Wilton and Ridgefield. Daniel fought in the Revolution and was a participant in the Battle of Ridgefield. He died about 1820.

He married Abigail Dikeman and they had a son Edmond born in Ridgefield April 9th, 1768, and died May 4th, 1843. His wife was Jemima Abbott, and they had two children, Jonathan and Cyrus. Cyrus was born in Lewisboro, New York, January 21, 1817, and died in Ridgefield March 1st, 1860. He married first in Pompton, N. J., Martha Stone, born there October 30, 1797, and died in Ridgefield September 11, 1830. He married second at Ridgefield, Roxanna St. John. Children by his first wife, Sally, Lydia Anna, David Washington, Polly, Maria, Charles, William, Henry Irving; children by his second wife, Ruth Elizabeth.

Henry Irving Beers was born in Ridgefield June 8th, 1830. He lived on the farm until he was fifteen years old. He then went with his sister Lydia Anna, wife of Peter P. Cornen, to their home in New York. He was employed in the Cornen store. He followed Mr. Cornen to California in 1849, and a partial description of his experiences in San Francisco is given elsewhere in this volume. Henry Irving Beers returned to New York City in 1859. In 1862, he went to McClintockville, Pennsylvania, about two and a half miles from Oil City. Associated with Peter P. Cornen, he entered the oil business. He started by buying oil and shipping it to Pittsburgh. In 1863 the two partners purchased the Smith farm on Cherry Run one mile above Rouseville, and this proved to be a very rich and productive property. They were the first to drill for oil on this farm, and after they began operations, in 1864, they drilled flowing wells of from twenty-four to two hundred and fifty barrels a day each, for two years, selling the oil for as high as thirteen dollars a barrel. They made over two million dollars

on this farm, and refused a four million dollar offer for it. Mr. Beers kept the farm as long as he lived.

Henry I. Beers was one of the great outstanding financial figures of Western Pennsylvania and West Virginia. He was one of the promoters of the Oil City and Petroleum Bridge Company, its largest shareholder and its president for forty years. For many years this bridge, rebuilt under his direction, was the finest structure spanning the Allegheny River. He was connected with many great public utility and banking institutions, among them the Manufacturers Light and Heat Company of Pittsburgh, one of the largest gas companies in the world. In 1911, his son Percival Cornen Beers succeeded him in the directorate. Mr. Beers refused office with the exception of consenting to be school director of his township. He was a delegate to the National Convention at St. Louis, in 1888, which nominated Grover Cleveland for President, the second time. During his terms as Chief Magistrate of the Land, President Cleveland quietly called Mr. Beers to Washington in order to consult with him on many financial problems. For forty years Mr. Beers was vestryman of the Episcopalian Church.

In the latter part of his life, Mr. Beers spent his winters in Southern California. He was in San Francisco at the St. Francis Hotel at the time of the great earthquake, April 18th, 1906, and with his wife, narrowly escaped death, saving only the clothes they were wearing, losing all their personal belongings, trunks of clothes, money and valuable jewelry.

Henry Irving Beers married first, December 9th, 1852, in New York, Harriet A. Forbes, born in Bradford County, Pennsylvania, October 30th, 1833, died in San Francisco, May 10, 1856. He married second September 3, 1857, in San Francisco, Kate E. Miller of Alton, Illinois, born August 10th, 1841, died in McClintockville, Pennsylvania, January 13th, 1886. He married third June 2nd 1892 in Philadelphia, Elizabeth C. Hickman. Children by first marriage: Frank Irving, born September 14th, 1853; John Selby, born August 14th, 1855; died in San Francisco, February 15th, 1856. Children by second marriage: Gideon Cyrus, born in San Francisco, September 9, 1858, died in McClintockville, Pennsylvania, November 1st, 1864; Walter Selby, born in Ridgefield, Connecticut, August 6th, 1860; Henry Irving, born in McClintockville March 3rd, 1867; Percival Cornen, born at McClintockville, March 20th, 1872.

Upon his death, February 22nd, 1917, Oil City lost one of its most public spirited citizens. He was most generous in his gifts for public and charitable enterprises. Henry Irving Beers was laid to rest in the town of his birth. A splendid tribute of affection and esteem for their father is the chime of bells in the tower of Christ's Episcopal Church at Oil City, which was given by his sons.

ABIJAH RESSEGUIE

Abijah Resseguie was born in Ridgefield March 26th, 1791, the son of Jacob and Sarah (*Folliet*) Resseguie. He was born in the southern part of the town in Whipstick District upon the farm known at the present writ-

ing as Ivanhoe Farm. His father was a soldier in the Revolutionary War and died July 24th, 1835, aged eighty-three years. His mother died July 27th, 1827, aged seventy-eight years. Mr. Resseguie was a man beloved by his fellow townsmen. His disposition throughout his entire life was kind and mellow. He was probably one of Ridgefield's best known men to the outside world, as he had the privilege of catering to the public passing through the town in his position as proprietor of the Keeler Tavern. On February 1st, 1829, he married Anna Keeler, daughter of Squire Timothy and Esther Keeler. Mr. Resseguie was slight and of medium height and in his latter days he had a *chevalure* of snowy whiteness. Mr. Resseguie was blessed with long life for he was at peace with himself, the world and his Creator, and retained his faculties until the last. He kept up his reading until after he was ninety-six years old. He never used tobacco in any form. At the time of his death, he was the oldest Mason in the United States. At the age of eighty, he visited the Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia, and also the Capitol at Washington. He remembered the tolling of the church bells in Ridgefield at the death of Washington. He was also a witness of the last flogging in Ridgefield, which took place at the Whipping Post on the corner of Main Street and Branchville Road. At the early age of fifteen, he learned the carriage making trade from John Watrous, who lived in a cottage upon lower Main Street. In politics Mr. Resseguie was a Whig and represented Ridgefield in the General Assembly in 1847. He died April 16th, 1887, in his ninety-seventh year. One daughter, Miss Anna Resseguie, his only child, survived him. Miss Resseguie was a woman of wonderful and lady-like attainments—a type rarely to be met. With her death, passed the last of the Resseguias in Ridgefield. Abijah Resseguie was the great-great-grandson of Alexander Resseguie, who married Miss Sarah Bontecou, daughter of Peter Bontecou of New York. The children of Alexander Resseguie were as follows: Alexander, born August 27, 1710; Peter, born December 19, 1711; James, born November 6, 1713; Abraham, born July 27, 17—; Isaac, born May 24, 1717; Jacob, born August 14, 1719; Sarah, born July 12, 1721.

THE LOUNSBURY FAMILY

Enos Lounsbury	son of Nathan and Widow Elizabeth (Seeley) Tallmadge, was born May 31, 1763.
Nathan Lounsbury (above mentioned)	was a soldier in the Revolutionary War, a member of Capt. Joseph Bell's Co. Enos Lounsbury, the son, was a soldier in the Revolutionary War in Capt. Scofield's Co. Enos Lounsbury married Feb. 13, 1783, Elizabeth Scofield.

Children of Enos and Elizabeth Scofield Lounsbury

Enos Lounsbury born May 22, 1784. Died in the War of 1812.
 Seely Lounsbury born June 26, 1786.
 William Lounsbury born June 6, 1788.
 Sylvanus Lounsbury born June 20, 1791.
 Enos Lounsbury married 2nd, Catee Waterbury, daughter of Isaac and
 Thankful (Scofield) Waterbury. Married Aug.
 3, 1796.

Children of Enos and Catee (Waterbury) Lounsbury

Elihu Lounsbury born July 19, 1797.
 Elizabeth born July 16, 1798.
 Minor born — Died young —
 Catee born Mar. 29, 1801.
 Minor born July 13, 1802.
 Isaac born July 26, 1803.
 Nancy born Oct. 3, 1804.
 Sally born Feb. 25, 1806.
 NATHAN born April 13, 1807.
 Elisha Seely and born Jan. 7, 1809.
 Patty Seely (Twins)
 Joseph born Mar. 5, 1812.
 One Child (unnamed)
 NATHAN LOUNSBURY married Delia Annor Scofield July 9, 1828. She
 was the daughter of Henry and Azuba Scofield,
 who were married Dec. 22, 1803. Michael
 Scofield, father of Henry, was a soldier in the
 Revolutionary War.
 Captain Sands Raymond, grandfather of Azuba,
 was a soldier in the Revolution.

Children of Nathan and Delia Annor (Scofield) Lounsbury

Matilda born April 16, 1829, at Pound Ridge, N. Y.
 Married Francis E. Quintard of Norwalk. Their
 children were Harriet F., born August 2, 1855,
 and Frederick H., born Jan. 24, 1857.
 William born June 12, 1831, at Pound Ridge, N. Y. Mar-
 ried Sarah Wheeler of Bethel Ct. Married 2nd
 Carrie Youngs of Norwalk. Their children were
 Sarah Elizabeth who married William H. Grif-
 fith of Bridgeport; William who married (1)
 Jessie Lund of Bridgeport. (2) Annie Adams,
 SARAH born Sept. 1, 1832. Married Nelson B. Sherwood
 1853. Their child was William L. Sherwood,
 born Nov. 5, 1856, at Ridgefield.

- ANN ELIZA born Sept. 28, 1834, at Pound Ridge, N. Y. Married JOEL LAWRENCE ROCKWELL, May 7th, 1850.
- George Edward born May 7, 1838, at Pound Ridge, N. Y. Married Mrs. Frances Josephine (Potwin) Whedon, Thanksgiving Day, 1894.
- Phineas Chapman born Jan. 10, 1841, at Ridgefield, Ct. Married Jenny Wright, New York City, June 12, 1867.

THE ROCKWELL FAMILY

- Jonathan Rockwell, probably born at Stamford, Ct., about 1665; married at Norwalk about 1703, ABIGAIL CANFIELD, daughter of Samuel Canfield and subsequently moved to Ridgefield, and died there June 19, 1731. His wife died July 8, 1734.
- Thomas Rockwell, brother of Jonathan Rockwell, born probably at Stamford about 1667, married at Norwalk December 9, 1703, to SARAH RESCO, daughter of John Resco, of Norwalk; he died June, 1712. These two brothers, the sons of JOHN ROCKWELL, JR., of Stamford (their mother's name unknown) settled in Ridgefield, Jonathan being one of the first proprietors and Thomas coming July, 1711.

Children of Jonathan and Abigail Canfield Rockwell.

- Benjamin Rockwell, born July 6, 1704, at Norwalk and married there, 1732, Rebecca Wilson, and settled at Ridgefield, where, according to Whitney's Genealogy, he was joint owner of a plot of ground on Main Street with Jonathan Rockwell in 1744. A record in the Presbyterian Church in South Salem says he was one of the eighteen who organized that church May 20, 1752; his wife, Rebecca, united there May 24, 1752. He died Nov. 16, 1787; she, Oct. 27, 1789.
- John Rockwell, born at Norwalk, probably April, 1706. Married 1st Elizabeth Keeler, September 3, 1731. Married 2nd at Ridgefield Esther Hollebert, Nov. 22, 1769. Lived in Ridgebury, where he died July 4, 1773.
- David Rockwell, born probably at Norwalk, October 8, 1708. Married 1st Elizabeth Hyatt, August 29, 1731. Married 2nd Widow Elizabeth (Whitney) Riggs. He died at Ridgefield May 30, 1708.

Jonathan Rockwell, born probably at Norwalk March 31, 1711. Married October 1733, Esther ———. He died at Ridgefield September 3, 1784. She died May 20, 1796.

Children of Benjamin and Rebecca Wilson Rockwell

Benjamin Rockwell, Jr., born in Ridgefield, August 13, 1733.
Jane Rockwell born in Ridgefield, Sept. 13, 1735.

NATHAN ROCKWELL,

born in Ridgefield Nov. 22, 1737; married at South Salem, N. Y., and joined the Presbyterian Church under Pastor Mead, Aug. 7, 1774. He was a farmer. He was very active in the American Revolution, during which the Tories offered a reward for his head. After the war he represented his county for several years in the N. Y. State Legislature. He married 1st Sarah Hull, 1762; married 2nd, Martha Mead, daughter of Benjamin Mead, born July, 1733, died January, 1809. He was chosen elder in the Presbyterian Church there May 28, 1782. He died there April 14, 1803, greatly respected. Nathan Rockwell is buried in the Presbyterian Church yard, South Salem, N. Y. The follownig is the inscription upon his monument:

Sacred to the
Memory of
NATHAN ROCKWELL
who deceased April the 14
A. D. 1803
Aged 65 years

On this occasion the language of encomium might be highly appropriate. Suffice it only to observe that faithfulness and integrity in the discharge of the several important offices with which his country had long invested him, conjoined to an amiable deportment in private life rendered him a valuable member of community and endeared him to his numerous acquaintances. During his life the Patriot, the professional Christian and the practical moralist were presented with a pattern worthy their imitation.

O Cruel Death
 neither the love of ones
 country, nor piety,
 nor sweetness of manners,
 nor love of friends,
 nor the most
 splendid faculties of
 Body or Mind
 can avail against
 thy calls.

Deborah Rockwell	born in Ridgefield Apr. 4, 1738
Stephen Rockwell	born in Ridgefield Jan. 14, 1739
Jeremiah Rockwell	born in Ridgefield Nov. 12, 1748
Job Rockwell	born in Ridgefield June, 1746

Child of Nathan and Sarah Hull Rockwell

Nathan Hull Rockwell baptized at Wilton, Conn., Sept. 4, 1763. Died Oct. 28, 1806.

Children of Nathan and Martha Mead Rockwell

William Rockwell baptized at South Salem, N. Y., Oct. 11, 1767; married Dec. 7, 1786, Huldah Bouton, daughter of Gould Bouton; she was born in 1767, and died in 1827. He died Feb. 20, 1820.

DR. STEPHEN ROCKWELL

baptized at South Salem Sept. 24, 1769. Married Nov. 27, 1788, Elizabeth Lawrence, born 1767. He died May 12, 1805; she died Nov. 1, 1843.

Dr. Benjamin Rockwell a physician, baptized at South Salem, Apr. 5, 1771. Married Nov. 27, 1796, Rebecca Foote. She was born Dec. 8, 1775. He died April 1, 1815, in New York City.

Patty Rockwell baptized at South Salem, Aug. 10, 1775. Married Malachi Foote and lived at Salem and Monticello, N. Y. He was an eminent physician. He died in Georgia about 1824. She died Aug. 1, 1812.

Thomas Rockwell baptized at South Salem, Feb. 16, 1777; married Sally Tyler, born Jan. 8, 1786, married Jan. 25, 1807, died July 10, 1874. He died Aug. 20, 1857.

Children of William and Huldah Bouton Rockwell

Martin Rockwell born South Salem, 1780; a physician. Married at South Salem, Nancy Mead, and settled there. He died at the same time as his father during an epidemic there in 1820.



George L. Rockwell

It has been said that they also had two daughters but no record could be found of them.

Children of Dr. Stephen Benjamin and Elizabeth Lawrence Rockwell

Sally	born South Salem, N. Y., Mar. 12, 1789; died at North Stamford Feb. 22, 1794, and buried there.
Gitty Myndress	born Stamford June 7, 1791; married John Fisher and died July 5, 1833.
Alexander R.	born Stamford April 22, 1793; married Maria Messenger.
Sally (2nd)	born Stamford April 27, 1795. Died Dec. 14, 1865.
STEPHEN	born South Salem, Oct. 9, 1797. Died April 1881, buried at New Rochelle.
Samuel Lawrence	born Bedford July 15, 1788. Died there Sept. 11, 1801.
Thomas	born Bedford June 6, 1802; married Prudence. Died in New York City Feb. 1, 1823. Buried South Salem.
Eliza	born Bedford Feb. 7, 1804, and died there Mar. 18, 1804.

Children of Stephen and Rachel Allaire Rockwell

JOEL LAWRENCE	born New York City Aug. 29, 1826; married May 7, 1850, Ann Eliza Lounsbury, daughter of Nathan and Delia Annor Scofield Lounsbury of Ridgefield. Died Jan. 14, 1909.
Maria Allaire	born New York City Dec. 27, 1827; married Byron Holly.
James Dustan	born New York City Dec. 14, 1830; married Lucinda Graves and resided in Brooklyn. No children.
Elizabeth Fisher	born New York City, Mar. 1835, and died there Apr. 4, 1837; buried at New Rochelle.
Elizabeth F. (2nd)	born New York City, Mar. 6, 1837; married Charles Weeks. Died at Redbank.
Stephen Benjamin	born New York City, May 27, 1840. Died Aug. 1850 and is buried at New Rochelle.
Anthony Daniel Simonde	Allaire — born Oxford N. Y., Apr. 18, 1844; not married; resided at New Haven. Died Jan. 25, 1904. Buried at Ridgefield.

THE HURLBUTT FAMILY

David Hurlbutt married Julia Maria Higgins in New York, February 6th, 1823. John D. Hurlbutt married Margaret Olmstead in Ridgefield, April 24, 1854. Sereno S. Hurlbutt married Julia Keeler at Redding April 3, 1855. John W. Rockwell married Hester A. Hurlbutt at Ridgefield

June 7, 1855. Isaac D. Sproull married Sarah M. Hurlbutt at Ridgefield
November 1, 1855.

BIRTHS

David Hurlbutt	born November 19, 1801
Julia Maria Higgins	" February 8, 1803
Sereno Stuart Hurlbutt	" January 4, 1825 in Ridgefield
Hester Ann Hurlbutt	" November 8, 1829 in Ridgefield
John David Hurlbutt	" August 8, 1832 in Ridgefield
Sarah Maria Hurlbutt	" May 30, 1835 in Ridgefield
Aaron Gregory Higgins Hurlbutt	" May 2, 1841 in Ridgefield

DEATHS

David Hurlbutt	died Nov. 20, 1858
Hester Ann Hurlbutt	" Dec. 5, 1861
John D. Hurlbutt	" Feb. 11, 1866 aged 33 yrs. 6 mos. 3 days
Mrs. Margaret Olmstead Hurlbutt	" Nov. 30, 1903 aged 74 yrs. 3 mos.
Aaron Gregory Higgins Hurlbutt	" July 17, 1878 aged 37 yrs. 2 mos. 15 days
Julia M. Hurlbutt	" Apr. 18, 1871 aged 68 yrs. 1 mo. 10 days
Sarah Maria Hurlbutt Sproull	" Feb. 23, 1875 aged 39 yrs. 3 mos. 23 days
Sereno Stuart Hurlbutt	" Feb. 25, 1904 aged 79 yrs. 1 mo. 21 days
Mrs. Julia Keeler Hurlbutt	" Jan. 25, 1923 aged 90 yrs. 11 mos. 17 days

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